

US protest at use of Soviet troops in Afghanistan coup

United States yesterday issued a formal protest to Moscow at the use of Soviet troops in the Afghan coup. The Russians defended their airlift by saying they

had responded to an urgent request from the Kabul Government for help. President Brezhnev wished Mr Babrak Karmal, who came to power in the coup, much success.

Russians say airlift justified

Michael Binyon
Dec 28
President Brezhnev today issued his warmest congratulations to the new leader of Afghanistan who "came back" to power in the coup.

The Soviet Government, the statement said, had met the Afghan request. "The Soviet Union," it added, "has a long and friendly relationship with the Afghan people and has always been ready to help them in their struggle for independence and national unity."

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Mr Carter cuts short holiday

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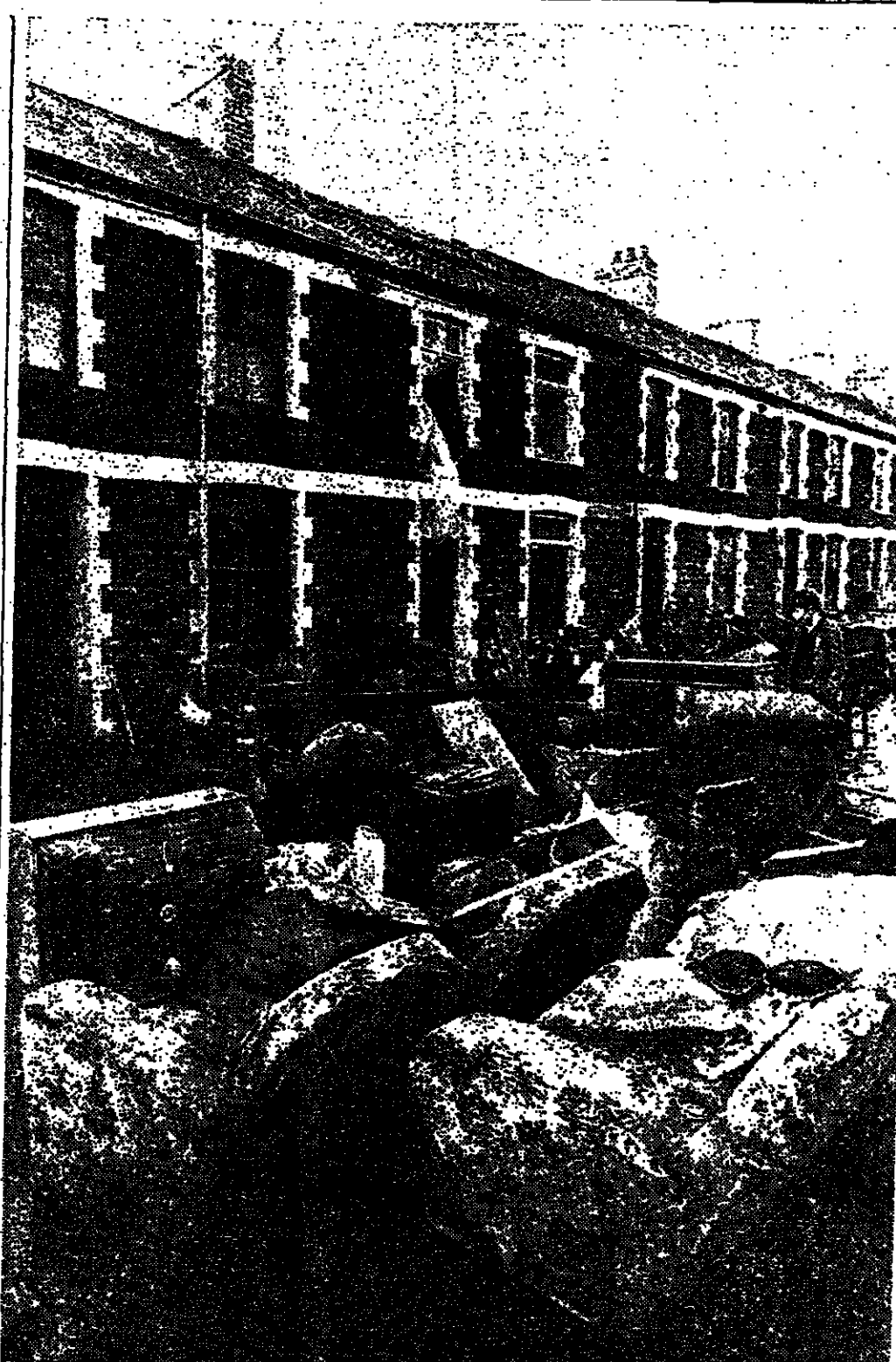
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Furniture saved from flooded homes fills the streets of Trehafoed, Rhondda Valley.

State cash to help flood areas

The Government yesterday announced a cash grant to help areas worst affected by the floods and storms of Thursday night. Mr Marcus Fox, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, announced that local councils would get 75 per cent of the cost of repairs to roads, bridges and homes.

The announcement came as Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, went on a tour of South Wales towns particularly badly affected. Up to 2,000 people are thought to have been evacuated from their homes in South Wales. More than half of them were taken to emergency centres.

repairs to Trehafoed and Cardiff, where several suburbs were still badly affected by flood water.

Across Britain, a big mop-up operation began as the flood waters ebbed slowly away, leaving nine people dead and hundreds of homes wrecked. In Wales, besides the towns of the industrial south, the central regions of the country were badly affected. Brecon in particular suffered, with more than 500 homes and business premises inundated with muddy brown water. Last night tankers were providing the town with fresh water supplies.

In Cardiff, the National Sports Centre suffered damage estimated at £750,000. Council officials place a "conservative" estimate of £1m on destruction to homes.

blocked. Dozens of shops had their windows smashed. Emergency services were fully stretched at Newton Abbot in South Devon and Bideford in North Devon. People were moved from their homes after flood water up to 5ft deep swept through both towns.

Several main roads were still closed in the South-west last night. The Wessex Water Authority said that 4in of rain had fallen in 24 hours at Yeovil.

In Surrey, a Labrador dog with a rope tied to his collar swam through a rising river to rescue two marooned families. The families, including two children, who were on holiday, were trapped on board a boat perched on top of a weir.

Crewmen risk lives to tow blazing gas tanker out to sea

From Our Correspondent

A Cypriot freighter crew risked their lives to tow a burning gas tanker out to sea off the South Devon coast yesterday.

The 11,000 tonne Spanish tanker, Butaseta, developed an engine room fire a mile off the fishing port of Brixham.

"If it went up it would shower Brixham with debris and cause untold damage," an RAF rescue spokesman said. "It's a potential time bomb."

Torrey Lifeboat took 17 crewmen and a woman to safety as the blaze raged out of control. Two other crew stayed on board to steer the stricken tanker when she was taken in tow by the Cypriot freighter.

The Navy tug Typhoon last night had the tanker hove to still attached to a tow line four miles north-east of Berry Head. The frigate HMS Anglesey and Dancub were standing by.

A naval spokesman said the plan was to let the fire burn itself out; if the ship was still afloat this morning a decision would be taken whether to board her.

Helicopters from RAF Culdroe airlifted fire-fighting equipment and a firefighting team from HMS Anglesey on to the blazing ship, carrying 750 tonnes of liquid petroleum gas.

The team, including Mr Joe Evans, the Admiralty's Chief Salvage Officer, were soon forced to abandon ship with the two crewmen, who had stayed on board.

The fire crew activated an inert-gas fire-fighting system before abandoning ship.

The Typhoon is trying to keep the ship into the wind to keep the flames to the aft, a Plymouth naval officer said.

"We can do nothing more than sit it out. If the fire burns itself out during the night we can get back on board."

The Typhoon then secured a line to the tanker to tow her to a safe position in mid-channel.

A spokesman at the RAF Mountain Search and Rescue Coordination Centre said: "The main thing is to get her into a safe position so if there is an explosion there will be no damage to other shipping or property on shore."

All aircraft were banned from flying below 20,000 feet in the area and naval aircraft kept a minimum distance of a mile from the tanker which was venting gas.

Rhodesia polling dates set for February

From Frederick Cleary

Salisbury, Dec 28

The dates for the Rhodesian general election were announced today by Lord Soames, the Governor.

It will be in two parts. The election for white seats will be on February 14 while that for the 80 black seats will be spread over three days from February 27.

The election will be organized in much the same way as the first majority rule poll held by the Rhodesian Government of National Unity in April but with a few changes.

One of the new provisions is that all used ballot papers will be sent to Britain after the election and will be destroyed six months later unless required for any election petition.

They will be produced only on an order by the General Division of the High Court for this purpose. Sir John Boynton, the British election commissioner, said this new provision was designed to increase confidence in the secrecy of the ballot.

Removing the papers from Rhodesia, should encourage people to vote for the party of their choice without fear that the papers would be examined for an analysis of votes.

Mr Nicholas Fenn, spokesman for Lord Soames, said tonight that although the Governor had complete discretion regarding the timing of the election and could in theory change the announced date, it was his firm intention to keep the dates given and would make changes only "with profound reluctance".

Sir John said that there would be the same method of preventing a double vote as that used in the April election, when each voter's hand was stamped in indelible ink. He added that he had not yet considered the timing of the election, but that the black seats as had been the case in April.

Every effort would be made to see that all citizens of Rhodesia had the opportunity to vote including those eligible from more than 200,000 refugees at present outside the country. A conference is to be held in London next month between the British Government and the Rhodesian Government and the International Red Cross to devise the best means of repatriating the refugees.

All parties contesting the 80 common roll seats have to be registered with the Attorney General by December 31. Nomination day for these candidates is January 21 and the nomination court will sit for both black and white seats on January 24.

About two million people voted in April but it is believed that about a million voters ignored the poll, possibly because of intimidation or because the Patriotic Front was not represented.

The number of seats for the electoral districts was also announced, seats being allocated on the current population estimates. In Mashonaland West there is an increase of two to a total of eight seats and in Matabeleland North the number remains at 10.

The largest area is Mashonaland East, which includes

Continued on page 4, col 1

000 fines infit ships

are to be given powers from 1 January to fine up to £50,000 the first offence under the Shipping Act, 1979. One of the fines to go to sea without a life, is important in the accident and pollution

Page 3

1 for pig disease

a, which the Government said had been eradicated, has cost this year in efforts to control money was spent on compensation for stamping out the disease

Page 3

s fight train ban

South-east England are preparing a ban by British Rail on London commuter trains, as of transport statistics show is continuing to increase

Page 3

out ruling

California becomes a little more after a court ruling which lieutenant Governor to make in the Governor's absence a Governor, on his return, lose appointments

Page 4

Congressman starts inquiry into Shah

A United States Congressman visiting Iran on a self-appointed mission to help the hostages said he was collecting evidence for a Congressional hearing on the alleged crimes of the Shah. The Soviet Ambassador in Tehran met Ayatollah Khomeini in the holy city of Qom Page 4

Turkey wants \$1,000m

Turkey has asked Saudi Arabia for a loan of up to \$1,000m (£500m). Without the money, it says, the Government in Ankara will fall and there could be a takeover by extremists

Page 4

Transport: Car travel has risen by 50 per cent in the past decade and now represents 81 per cent of all travel

BL price rises: Selective increases averaging 4 per cent have been announced for British Leyland cars, with the biggest rises on small models

Page 2

12p letter: The Government has rejected a call to revise the Post Office's financial targets to avert price rises in February 2

Page 2

French MPs pass Bill on taxes

Both Houses of the French Parliament have passed in record time a Bill enabling the Government to collect taxes and make payments after the new year deadline. They refused, however, to be stampeded into a quick vote of the 1980 Finance Bill and resumed their holidays

Page 3

Letters: On personal liberty from Lord Shawcross, QC; on the new airport, from Mr W. D. Peters; on the British Library, from Professor Hugh Thomas, and others

Page 3

Leading article: World peace features, page 12

Michael Howard on EC farm policy crisis; Obituary, page 14

Signor Gio Ponti, Mr Cecil Catling, General Michael Kaszkov

Page 15, 16

Cricket: Good scores century against Queensland, 11-2

Page 15, 16

Further price increases by petrol companies with warning of more to come

By Nicholas Hirst

Energy Correspondent

BP, Mobil and Texaco raised the price of petrol by up to 4p a gallon of four-star from midnight last night as three members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) announced increases in the cost of their crude oil from January 1.

In the past two days suppliers of 60 per cent of the petrol sold in Britain have raised their prices. Esso put 4p on a gallon of four-star on Thursday and Shell, which has a further 20 per cent of the market, increased its prices by 2p a gallon at the end of November.

All companies have emphasized that more rises are inevitable as individual Opec members increase costs after the breakdown of attempts to bring back a unified structure to oil pricing in Caracas last week. The eventual rise may be as much as 8p a gallon on four-star.

There were reports late last night that Libya, a leading pricing "hawk", was to increase its prices for 1980 by another \$4.50 above the record \$30 it set for its crude at Caracas.

money available without condition. Mr Sirs said as he arrived: "I expect that the corporation has come to realize the seriousness of the position and that it does not want to stop the industry."

The talks between Mr Sirs, Mr Smith and Mr Robert Scholey, BSC's chief executive, started in mid-morning (the Press Association reports). The result of their preliminary negotiations was related to the members of the unions' full negotiating committees after five hours.

Yesterday Venezuela and Iraq, now the second largest Opec exporter, joined the prices free-for-all by raising the cost of their crude exports to about \$26 a barrel, once again isolating moderate Saudi Arabia as the cheapest source of Middle East crude at \$24 a barrel.

Indonesia increased its price to an average of \$28. It is the second rise Indonesia and Venezuela have announced within the last fortnight.

Kuwait, a supplier of 40 per cent of Shell United Kingdom's requirements, remains the last of the large Opec exporters to announce prices for 1980, but it is expected to join the emerging middle range confirmed by Iraq and Venezuela at about \$26 a barrel.

Continued on page 17, col 4

WHY CHICKEN AND VEAL MAY LEAVE A NASTY TASTE IN YOUR MOUTH

We don't want to spoil the festive season, but will chicken and veal ever taste the same to you again?

The intensive system of farming means for example that, four or five hens stand in a cage little bigger than your television screen all their adult lives.

Veal calves are kept in crates less than 2 feet wide and are hardly able to move. Their flesh is kept unnaturally pale by the reduction of iron in their diet.

These systems are still legal and lawful in Britain today.

Is the price of chicken and veal too high to pay, not in terms of money, but of animal suffering? The RSPCA fights to prevent cruelty to all creatures 365 days of the year.

If you believe that the intensive methods of farming are unnecessary and inhumane and would like to help put an end to them, cut out, complete and post the coupon below today.

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I realise this campaign is costing a lot of money and would like to help with a donation of £

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RSPCA Next time you have chicken or veal will you be able to stomach it?

OVERSEAS

Soviet troops patrol Kabul as shooting continues after coup

By Our Foreign Staff

Soviet troops are patrolling the streets of Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, yesterday and night as fighting continued after a Soviet-backed coup in the Government in 18 months, diplomatic sources reported.

The Russian troops took part in the fighting that accompanied the coup in which President Hafizullah Amin was overthrown and quickly executed, the sources said.

Russians are reported to have armed tanks and armoured personnel carriers during three hours of tank and artillery fire that ended at midnight on Thursday.

Last night Kabul radio reported that Amin's younger brother and a nephew were executed yesterday along with the former President.

All three were reported to have been found guilty of crimes against the Afghan people by a revolutionary court comprising "revolutionary religious and working class leaders".

The radio named Amin's brother as Abdullah Amin, military commander of the Northern Sector, and the nephew as Assadullah Amin, head of the secret police and Deputy Foreign Minister.

Kabul radio said earlier that Amin had been eliminated and announced that a new Revolutionary Council headed by Mr Babrak Karmal, a former Vice-President, had taken power.

The radio said President Amin headed a despotic, tyrannical regime that had been responsible for the deaths of a great number of innocent people.

Sources in Delhi reported that some fighting continued in Kabul yesterday. The city was reported to be filled with armed vehicles, particularly near Kabul radio station.

Mr Karmal's Democratic People's Party yesterday promised that elections would be held in the country soon, the Press Trust of India news agency reported, quoting Kabul radio.

The report said that all progressive parties, except that supporting Amin, would be allowed freedom of political activity. No election date was given.

Mr Karmal himself pledged that he would seek a political solution to the Muslim rebellion that threatened his predecessors and led Moscow to increase its military involvement.

Earlier this year, the Soviet Union through its embassy in Kabul, urged the Government to seek a political solution to the insurgency in which guerrillas have taken control of the countryside and pushed government forces back to the cities and towns.

There were indications yesterday that at least some of the insurgents regard Mr Karmal as a Soviet puppet and will continue fighting.

A spokesman for the Hizb-i-Islami group said the coup had brought no change to the Government in Kabul and said the group would continue the struggle to establish an Islamic republic.

Other insurgent leaders in Pakistan were studying the new Government before commenting, spokesmen said.

Authoritative sources in Islamabad said the Pakistani Government believed the coup might lead to a political solution. An estimated 400,000 Afghan refugees have fled to Pakistan to escape the fighting, and Islamabad is deeply interested in a solution that would permit their return.

But an Afghan exile movement based in Iran said yesterday it would fight on against the Kabul Government.

The Islamic Movement of Afghanistan said: "The overthrow of the treacherous Hafizullah Amin and the coming to power of the mercenary Babrak Karmal, lackey of the Soviet Union... makes the decisiveness of the militant Muslims of Afghanistan in taking back independence and national sovereignty more serious."

Mr Karmal named a 14-man Cabinet that included mainly members of the Parcham (Flag) Party that was purged by Amin during his three-month presidency.

The new Government includes Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, a hero of the revolution of April, 1978, who was later purged by Amin.

Indian response: In spite of western denials of direct Soviet involvement in Afghanistan, the Indian Government yesterday refused to take a stand condemning the influx of Soviet troops and the replacement by Mr Babrak Karmal of the Amin regime as interference in the internal affairs of a friendly neighbouring country (Richard Wigg writes from Delhi).

Mr Yuri Yarovoy, the Soviet Ambassador, called on Mr R. D. Sathe, the senior official in India's External Affairs Ministry, at midnight on Thursday to give Moscow's version of a request by Afghan leadership "for military aid against what was claimed to be an external threat."

The Indian Cabinet has not yet made a decision on the situation for the region that many Indian observers feared had been developing for months.

With the election now less than a week away, ministers do not interrupt the last day of campaigning. Mr S. N. Mishra, the External Affairs Minister, is not in Delhi but in his Bihar constituency.

India has a treaty of friendship with the Soviet Union signed by Mrs Gandhi and officially enjoys very good relations with Moscow, as was carefully emphasized here yesterday. Any forthright stand on Moscow's actions in Kabul by the caretaker Government with only days to live might immediately boomerang.

An External Affairs Ministry spokesman said as a result that India was still assessing for itself the Soviet claim that it had sent contingents of troops under the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed with Kabul last December.

Mr Mukome told the *National Observer* he had reliable information from Maputo that Mr Tongogara was murdered on Monday, not killed in a road crash on Wednesday as reported from Maputo. He added that Mr Tongogara was murdered by Zulu forces who were dissatisfied with his settlement and ceasefire arrangements.

Mr Mukome said the Chimoio area where Mr Tongogara was reported to have been killed in the crash did not have a road as yet, only a winding track. He claimed that Mr Tongogara's body was already in the mortuary in Maputo when the Patriotic Front commanders flew in the chartered aircraft to Salisbury late on Wednesday.

Mr Tongogara's death was not announced then because the whole business had not yet been stage-managed to look like an assassination, he said. Mr Mukome added that Mr Tongogara's death was yet another blow to the Victoria province of Rhodesia which already had most of its prominent politicians locked up in Mozambique. Mr Tongogara had unsuccessfully pressed Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zanu leader, for their release.

Tonight Mr Michael Mawema's National Front of Zimbabwe Party also claimed that Mr Tongogara had been murdered.

From Sinan Fisek Ankara, Dec 28

Liberal circles in Turkey are criticizing what they believe is censorship by Ankara's martial law authority of radio and television coverage of the political violence that has claimed more than 2,500 lives in Turkey in the past two weeks.

A letter sent recently to the TRT, the state broadcasting organization, requested that martial law officials be consulted before news and commentary dealing with political violence or parties was broadcast.

Critics claim that since then TRT bulletins have ignored some important events and given minimal coverage to others. These include the teachers' union rally against "fascism and anti-democratic laws".

Last night the Kahramanmaraş massacre that led to the proclamation of martial law in 19 of Turkey's 67 provinces.

Mr Karmal, fourth Afghan President in 20 months, is more pro-Soviet than predecessor, but more moderate

Kabul's soft-spoken new leader

Mr Babrak Karmal, a soft-spoken Marxist who has replaced Hafizullah Amin as President of Afghanistan, is considered more pro-Soviet than Amin but more moderate on the issues that have antagonized Afghanistan's traditionalist tribesmen.

Mr Karmal, aged 50, the son of a provincial governor, was educated at a German-language school and graduated in law from Kabul University.

Nothing in his official biography suggests the assessment by Washington intelligence officials: "An explosive character as close as you could ever get to the classic Moscow-line Communist."

The intelligence sources say that in the 1950s Mr Karmal served a five-year prison term for political activities.

Later, as an outspoken member of Afghanistan's short-lived Parliament, known as the Wolesi Jirga, he made no secret of his left-wing views and in 1965 was involved in a fight in the legislature that landed him in hospital.

His Parcham (flag) Party was the only Afghan Marxist group to support the overthrow of King Zahir Shah in 1973 by Muhammad Daoud. But when Daoud banned political parties in 1977 Mr Karmal joined forces with the Khalq (People's) Party of Nur Muhammad Taraki.



Mr Karmal: Survived purge

was the only Afghan Marxist group to support the overthrow of King Zahir Shah in 1973 by Muhammad Daoud. But when Daoud banned political parties in 1977 Mr Karmal joined forces with the Khalq (People's) Party of Nur Muhammad Taraki.

Although ordered to return to Afghanistan by Amin in September, 1978, Mr Karmal refused and went underground, possibly in the Soviet Union.

Taraki was overthrown and killed in a coup led by Amin, leader, against a background of Soviet involvement in neighbouring Afghanistan and American attempts to blockade Iran.

Informal sources said the meeting took place in the holy city of Qom. They said Mr

What resulted was the Democratic Khalq Party. As military leader of the party Hafizullah Amin successfully recruited important elements of the armed forces.

These officers led the coup of April, 1978, that overthrew Daoud after he ordered the arrest of Mr Karmal, Taraki and Amin who had protested over the killing of a party official.

After the coup, Taraki assumed the position of President and Prime Minister, and Mr Karmal acted as his deputy. However, after a dispute, Mr Karmal was purged and sent to Paghman as Ambassador to Czechoslovakia.

Referring to the possible release of the hostages, he said he thought it would "settle for less than the actual physical return of the Shah".

Mr Vladimir Vinogradov, the Russian Ambassador, today met Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian leader, against a background of Soviet involvement in neighbouring Afghanistan and American attempts to blockade Iran.

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Congressman studies Shah's alleged crimes

Tehran, Dec 28.—Representative George Hansen, who is visiting Iran on a self-appointed mission to help the American hostages, said today he was collecting evidence for a congressional hearing "on the alleged crimes of the former Shah".

Mr Hansen, an Idaho Republican, told a press conference he was certain Congress would investigate American links with Iran over the past 30 years and the deposed Shah's financial ties with the United States.

He added that he wanted to see evidence of alleged torture, prison conditions and reports of human rights abuses. "It is important to be on the scene and get the other side. I think we should get the evidence on the table," he said.

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Sadeq Ozbazhchi, the Foreign Minister, was also present but no details were available.

The ambassador's visit coincided with American moves to win approval by the United Nations Security Council for an international economic blockade against Iran.

Clergymen rebuffed: Three American clergymen who visited the embassy in Tehran for Christmas returned here last night, insisting they had met only 43 Americans. They appeared in the State Department and the Iranian Embassy in Washington to compare names and formally end the controversy over the number being held.

The State Department says that 50 people are being held, however, Tehran newspapers give the number as 49.

No hostages moved: One of the Iranian militants holding the Americans hostage in Tehran said in a television interview shown on the United States today that no captives had been moved from the embassy.

The Iranian, who spoke through an interpreter, said the hostages would not be moved until they were taken to court to be tried. — Reuters

On his return from Washington, Mr Brown rescinded the appointment in favour of Appellate Justice Bernard Jeffrey. Yesterday the Supreme Court upheld the Jefferson appointment.

But following the court decision, both sides claim the victory.

Mr Brown's office said they preferred to read the justices' decision completely. Mr Curb issued a statement saying that he was "extremely gratified" that the court was upheld over 180 years of practice in California history that the Lieutenant Governor has all the powers of the Governor and is acting Governor for all practical purposes when the Governor is physically absent from the state.

In arguments to the Supreme Court, Mr Anthony Kline, legal secretary to Mr Brown, contended that the basic of today's modern communications systems a Governor is able to run his state even while he is away.

In the last year, Mr Brown has been out of California 24 times for a total of 81 days, most of that period spent campaigning for the Presidency. In 1980 he is expected to be absent from the state for even longer periods as the campaign tempo increases.

Earlier this year police reported a "Keystone Cop" type of scene in which Mr Curb, driving at speeds of 100 miles an hour, raced to the state capital to sign a bill after learning that his boss would shortly be flying back to California to veto it.

The court's decision also said clearly that while the Governor is away, the Lieutenant Governor is not to act as Governor unless he determines need arising during the Governor's absence.

At stake is not only the authority to make appointments but to remove them. The court also ordered that the Governor's executive orders, grant pardons and clemency over a \$22,000m (€30,000m) state budget.

One pundit, a veteran observer of the constitutional battle between the two branches, has described it as "the most important of the California campaign".

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At stake is not only the authority to make appointments but to remove them. The court also ordered that the Governor's executive orders, grant pardons and clemency over a \$22,000m (€30,000m) state budget.

One pundit, a veteran observer of the constitutional battle between the two branches, has described it as "the most important of the California campaign".

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California clash not eased by court ruling

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles, Dec 28

The complexities of governing the most populous state in the union grew a little more tortuous this week with Thursday's ruling from the California Supreme Court that while the Lieutenant Governor is away from the state his deputy, Mr Mike Curb, can make appointments in his absence.

The court, however, also ruled that when Mr Brown returns to Sacramento he can, should he wish, nullify Mr Curb's appointments.

Observers consider the ruling as something of a standoff, guaranteed to keep both sides happy in a long-running dispute that erupted shortly after Mr Brown was re-elected Governor and Mr Curb, a former Hollywood record company executive, his number two.

It was the first time this century that candidates from two different parties were elected to those key offices.

The politically charged constitutional power struggle came to a head last March when Mr Curb appointed Judge Armand Aronson to succeed Justice of the state court of appeal in Los Angeles.

On his return from Washington, Mr Brown rescinded the appointment in favour of Appellate Justice Bernard Jeffrey. Yesterday the Supreme Court upheld the Jefferson appointment.

But following the court decision, both sides claim the victory.

Mr Brown's office said they preferred to read the justices' decision completely. Mr Curb issued a statement saying that he was "extremely gratified" that the court was upheld over 180 years of practice in California history that the Lieutenant Governor has all the powers of the Governor and is acting Governor for all practical purposes when the Governor is physically absent from the state.

In arguments to the Supreme Court, Mr Anthony Kline, legal secretary to Mr Brown, contended that the basic of today's modern communications systems a Governor is able to run his state even while he is away.

In the last year, Mr Brown has been out of California 24 times for a total of 81 days, most of that period spent campaigning for the Presidency. In 1980 he is expected to be absent from the state for even longer periods as the campaign tempo increases.

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Saturday Review

Calendar of a decade

1970

The Year of the Hijacker

As airliners blown up at sea; Field, Biafra, Biafra, Biafra; Mr Heath wins election with overall majority 30; Ian Paisley in, George VI, Jennie Lee, out; the less disband; Solzhenitsyn Nobel Prize; 90-day cease-fire between Israel and Arabs; U.S. discovers giant North oilfield; South Africa ban from Olympics.

Born: Rhodesian and Khmer republics; Ostpolitik; BBC in London; the New English; "This is not an invasion of Cambodia".

Died: Four students at Kent University, Ohio, Parké, Iain Macleod, Salazar, de Gaulle, Barbirolli, Third Programme.

1971

Year of China

China: war between India and Pakistan; Vietnam Phnom Penh; Rolfe nationalized; Amin power in Uganda; pound for first time since 1939; Maoism guilty of murder; 105 Soviet officials expelled from Britain; 12,000 dead in Washington anti-nuclear demonstrations.

Born: the UCS work in peace; the first nude in The Times; Bangladesh, the National Industrial Relations Court; Dutch elm disease.

Died: Khrushchev, "Papa Doc" Duvalier, the Daily Sketch, the half-crown, George Jackson, Solidad, brother, in Washington anti-nuclear demonstrations.

1972

Year of Ulster

rule, Bloody Sunday, the Embassy in Dublin, an IRA bomb at Alder, Nixon visits Moscow and; Amin expels Uganda; BSEs make their st raids on Vietnam; a

Born: the UCS work in peace; the first nude in The Times; Bangladesh, the National Industrial Relations Court; Dutch elm disease.

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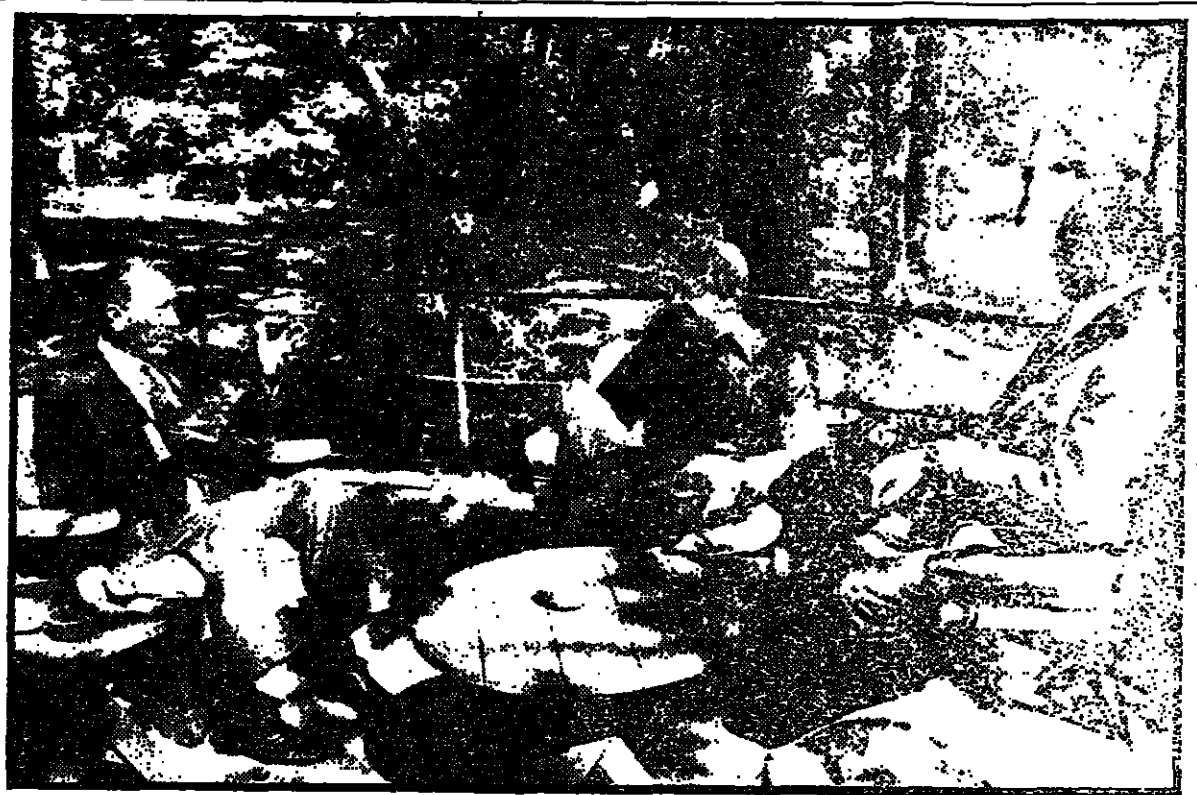
1973

Year of Energy Crisis

coupons and the piling of oil prices; con- sion between Mr Heath e miners; the October Britain, Ireland and Den- oin EEC; John Poulson

Born: the last American troops leave Vietnam; Water- gate; £20m High Court award to thalidomide children; 228 injured by bombs at Scotlan- Yard and Old Bailey; Anne marries Mark.

Died: the Northern Ireland Assembly; the three-day week; the oil weapon; the second cod war.



Shattered hopes

The seventies will probably be remembered as the decade when the decline of Britain, at home and abroad, accelerated at an alarming speed. For some, the decline was all the more dismaying after the high hopes and aspirations of the swinging sixties and the Wilsonian promise of a national rebirth forged in the wild heat of technology.

The rebirth proved to be a mirage, and in retrospect the swinging sixties largely a media event. They were discovered if not invented—nature might well have copied art—by Time magazine, which declared that Britain was in the midst of a bloodless revolution. A new group of people were taking over from the old establishment and creating a new kind of classlessness.

Time got it about half right. The old class system was crumbling, and Shavian middle class morality with its old earthiness of the English (I am not certain that this ever applied to the Scots and Welsh) reemerged, but the new group who were largely to dominate the politics of the seventies were not the cheerful, lusty Shakespearean characters the magazine saw enlivening the streets of London.

Instead, they declared a new kind of class war under the banners of equality and social justice, Burskellism and the old easy-going pragmatism gave way to an un-British ideological fervour, at least in Congress House and the national executive committee of the Labour Party. The inevitable Tory reaction followed.

In 1971, the former Labour Member for Blackley, put it another way when he decided not to seek reelection in 1979. Parliament, he said, no longer reflected the variety and sophistication of modern society but the ossified, luxury institutions and attitudes responsible for Britain's decline.

The concept of two monolithic classes represented by the two major parties was as simplistic as applying Adam Smith's or Karl Marx's analysis of Victorian capitalism to the EEC or Comecon. Nevertheless, the direction of the country could and did swing

between the two extremes. It did indeed, and with disastrous results. Not even the West German economy could have survived the changes of direction imposed by successive governments upon poor old Britain.

History cannot of course be neatly packaged in decades, and the danger signals were already flying in 1970. The shift to service industries had ignored the obvious fact that they could not exist without the creation of wealth, and strikes were diminishing what was left.

Efforts to restrain wages had failed to check inflation, and then Mr Harold Wilson had failed to check inflation, and union reform. De-industrialization was already under way before the dawn of the decade of decline.

Mr Edward Heath came to power determined to "roll back the frontiers of government" and set free his Selsdon Man. He was no less determined to enact trade union reform, but did not seem to understand that the nature of the power of the unions was changing.

A decisive shift in power was taking place as Mr Heath was about to discover. The trade unions were no longer the Solid South of the Labour Party. Some union leaders were beginning to look like rebellious barons. The Queen's writ no longer necessarily ran to their headquarters keeps.

The 1972 Industrial Relations Act and the government's prices and incomes policy provoked instant counter-attacks. The miners' strike of 1972 was more like guerrilla warfare than an industrial dispute.

Flying pickets proved to be Britain's Basher-Meinhoff Gang or Red Brigades, and were more successful. At the Salsley coke depot, 6,000 pickets defied the forces of law and order. That is the elected government of the day submitted abjectly to unconditional forces.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' leader who organized the flying pickets, did not bother to disguise his political motive—that he was fighting a class war and not a wage battle. "It was them or us. We were out to defeat the Heath Government, and the only way to

wage war was to attack vulnerable points. . . . We wished to paralyse the nation's economy. It's as simple as that."

Other union leaders were not so outspoken about their political ambitions, but by 1974 their quest for power had been given a new dimension. After demonstrating that they could bring down any government, Labour or Tory, they demanded a share in the control of the national economy with government and of industry with employers. The corporate state was their immediate goal.

The new Labour Government was only too happy to oblige. The Social Contract established a unique relationship between the national government and only one section of the community. Mr Wilson promised to repeal the Industrial Relations Act, subsidize food and freeze rents in return for a promise from the Trades Union Congress to restrain wage demands.

The unions were granted immunities which for most purposes placed them above the law, but the TUC was in no position to deliver. Average earnings rose by 25 per cent in the first year, and in the next year wage settlements reached 30 per cent. The value of sterling dropped as the inflation rate and public sector borrowing requirement threatened to get out of control.

The question was again asked, who rules Britain? The answer was certainly not the unions, although the TUC had largely dictated the government's industrial policy. The members of its General Council, who were differentially treated as statesmen because they were assumed to represent organized labour, were as powerless as the government because most of them could not control their own shop stewards.

As far as the economy was concerned, nobody ruled. Posters might decide that it was mob rule.

Financial collapse, and perhaps dangerous civil unrest, was avoided with the help of the International Monetary Fund, which demanded wage restraint and cuts in public spending, but little else was gained or learnt. Industrial guerrilla warfare

1978

The Year of Camp David

Thirty years of war between Israel and Egypt ended; revolution in Nicaragua; North Sea oil production passes 1m barrels a day; Shell and BP accused of breaking Rhodesia sanctions; Peugeot-Citroen buys Chrysler Europe; Syrian peace-keeping forces enter Lebanon; Ian Paisley preaches in Dublin; the Amoco Cadiz spills her cargo; Princess Margaret divorced; inflation rate falls to 5.8 per cent.

Born: Louise Brown, test-tube baby, the Advanced Passenger Train, a salmon in the Thames.

Died: Popes Paul VI and John Paul I, Hubert Humphrey, the Lib-Lab Pact, Georgi Markov, the VW Beetle, Aldo Moro, Jomo Kenyatta, Golda Meir, Lord Selwyn-Lloyd, Charles Boyer, 900 fanatics by cyanide poisoning in Guyana, 11 million elm trees.

1979

The Year of the Ayatollah

The fall of the Shah, and the American Embassy hostages; Mrs Thatcher becomes first British woman Prime Minister, with overall majority of 43; Rhodesian referendum favours black majority rule; a winter of discontent by lorry drivers and public service workers; China invades Vietnam; Carter tours the Middle East; Amu flees Uganda; Jeremy Thorpe acquitted; the Pope visits Poland, Ireland and United States; £4,000m public spending cuts; famine in Kampuchea; nuclear accident at Three Mile Island; Leyland to cut 25,000 jobs; British Steel 52,000: the first non-powered cross-Channel flight.

Born: Zimbabwe Rhodesia, the first C1m football transfer, the Jubilee Line, Muldergate, Salt 2, the Fourth Man, a centre-right European Parliament, the Minister of Weather.

Died: Earl Mountbatten, Mr Bhutto, Airey, Neave, Ruvellie, 57 Quangos, 257 in a DC10 in Antarctica, 15 soldiers at Warrenpoint, devolution, 17 Fastnet yachtsmen, Blair Peach, 50 in a tanker explosion at Bantry Bay, 59 in a shot down Rhodesian VC, an unknown number in Kampuchea.

Calendar compiled by Alan Hamilton



1974

The Year of Watergate

The resignation of Nixon and his replacement by Ford; bombs at the Boat Show and Madame Tussaud's; stalemate in the first general election, an overall Labour majority of three in the second; Scottish Nationalists hold balance of power; first Greek general election since 1967; essential food prices controlled; over two million unemployed on short-time in three-day week; Portuguese government overthrown by Spínola; Turkey invades Cyprus; hospital workers refuse to service private patients; collapse of the Northern Ireland Executive.

Born: County of Avon, a son to Ronald Biggs, Sir Walter Walker's private army, republic of Mozambique, the Department of Energy, the social contract.

Died: 29 at Flixborough, 21 in pub bombs in Birmingham, 344 in a DC10 at Paris, County of Rutland, the Pay Board, Georges Pompidou, Richard Crossman, Juan Perón, five in Goldford bomb, Jack Benny.



1975

The Year of the Sieges

Balcombe Street and Spaghetti House sieges; Mrs Thatcher takes the Tory leadership; US evacuates Cambodia; John Stonehouse arrested in Melbourne; first North Sea oil arrives; 11 OPEC delegates captured by Palestinians in Vienna; Apollo links up with Soyuz; UK votes 67.2 per cent to stay in EEC; warrant issued for arrest of Lord Lucan; US unemployment reaches a 13-year peak of 7.1 per cent.

Born: the Helsinki Agreement, Ho Chi Minh City, the National Enterprise Board, the Sex Discrimination and Equal Pay Acts, the Scottish Daily News, the High Speed Train, republic of Angola.

Died: Chiang Kai-shek, General Franco, Eamon de Valera, Balle Salasie, the Channel Tunnel, Aristotle Onassis, P. G. Wodehouse, 43 Tube passengers at Moorgate.

1977

The Year of the Jubilee

Mrs Chandhi ousted in Indian elections; Red Run wins Grand National for third time; Ethiopia helped by Cuban fighters Somalia; pickets fight police at Greenwich Laboratories; Moluccan terrorists hijack a Dutch shipbuilders, Skytrain, the Lib-Lab Pact, Concorde to New York, the Boat People.

Died: Steve Biko, 1,200 guerrillas in Rhodesian raids, the Earl of Arvon, Archbishop Makarios, Elvis Presley, Anthony Crosland, Maria Callas, Charles Chaplin, 582 air passengers at Tenerife.

1976

The Year of Jimmy Carter

New US president elected with 51 per cent of the popular vote; Britain suffers great drought; world population passes 4,000m; Thorpe resigns Liberal leadership; Israeli commandos snatch 97 hostages from Entebbe; Britain seeks £1,000m IMF loan; bomb at Olympia injures 85; Wilson makes way for Callaghan;

Solzhenitsyn predicts imminent fall of the West: Tate Gallery exhibits 120 bricks; £ falls to \$1.5710.

Born: the Employment Protection Act, the Northern Ireland Peace Movement; democracy in Portugal, a unified Vietnam, a British postwar unemployment record of 1.5m.

Died: 40 South Africans in Soweto, Mai Tso-tung, Chou En-lai, Viscount Montgomery, Paul Getty, Emil Savundra, Lord Thomson of Fleet, James Sybil Thorndike and Edith Evans, 297 Army, police, reservists and civilians in Ulster.

REVIEW OF A DECADE

FOREIGN

Africa
Coups, wars
and some
hope

By Roy Lewis

The collapse in 1974 of the Portuguese Empire, bastion of white-controlled southern Africa, transformed prospects and accelerated continental-wide processes of change. When the serenities began to fall, the line of the Zambian separating the black states from the white-ruled states, and the black states whose fortunes and fate were bound up with them, seemed likely to last for decades yet.

At the same time the black states seemed embroiled with their own internal problems of tribalism, secessionist movements, and political and economic stability. Their efforts to operate regional groupings tended, like the periodic pourparlers of the Organisation of African Unity, to be longer on words than action.

The decade began with the ending of the Biafran secession from Nigeria, which presented a steady growth in the influence of the country with its reinforced. This development was progressively enhanced with soaring oil prices from 1973 onwards.

Nigeria suffered from minor coups and from scandals. The disbanding of the Army was prolonged and corruption proliferated, but by the end of the decade it was economically and in population incontestably the African giant, and had effected its transition back to civilian rule under a constitution combined with even one institution with a toughly authoritarian executive.

It is too soon to say that the Nigerian odyssey has set the pattern for black states. The decade was punctuated in almost all of them by coups and failed coups and plots; at times it has seemed that the future lay in a congeries of petty caesars, with even one state "constitutional" states in the minority, Amin, Macias and Emperor Bokassa seemed only the extreme examples of a type of corrupt military government for which the next generation of junior officers.

Ghana's restored democracy led by the moderate Dr Busia was overturned by a military junta soon to be replaced by a regime more than the regime they supplanted—but by the end of the decade constitutionalism had been resumed. Kenya successfully survived the transition after Kenyatta's death without coups or bloodshed in 1978.

On the other hand, the tendencies in all African regimes to espouse socialism and to embrace anti-westernism, noticeable in the early seventies, have for more than one reason, culminated in greatly increased Russian influence throughout the continent. In 1970 Congo-Brazzaville and Sekou Touré's Guinea professed to be full-blown Marxist states; now Ethiopia, Somalia, Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Cape Verde and some minor entities have joined them.

Russia has not only been the beneficiary of the Portuguese empire, it has become dominant in the Horn, after the deposition in Ethiopia of Haile Selassie following the droughts, famines, and gathering discontent in the early seventies. No less important, Russia has demonstrated its extraordinary expertise in putting down as well as in engineering guerrilla uprisings.

It used the Cuban military to depose the two regimes in Angola when they nearly reached Luanda. It enabled the Somalis to seize all south-eastern Ethiopia in 1976, and then helped the emerging African States, Mengistu to throw them out again; and when all Ethiopia seemed due to fall to Marxist rebel forces, the Soviet Union helped Mengistu to crush them with ruthless efficiency far beyond Haile Selassie's capacity.

At Haile Selassie's constitutional reforms were failing, General Siyame's book *Portugal and the Future* finally packed the emperor's seat in Portugal. The guerrillas had, by sheer attrition, won an unexpected victory.

Early attempts to create a South-Eastern commonwealth which gave wide scope to independence in Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde and Principe, the Portuguese withdrew from Angola as the MPLA, with Russian backing, fought off its rivals, quickly deserted by American and South African backers.

Within a year South Africa had potentially hostile borders on all sides except Rhodesia, and the guerrilla war by Swapo against South-West Africa (Namibia) gathered such force that the homelands plan was abandoned.

Negotiations with the United Nations and Western mediators were failing, restricted for an independent Namibia, South Africa only holding out for a mixed racial state in which white power should be powerful if not predominant.

Rhodesia's prospects were immediately transformed. Lord Alport prepared the ground for Sir Alec Douglas-Home's "last try", which evolved a constitution under which the blacks might achieve a majority rule in 20 years agreed to by the South African government, in the finding of the Pankaj Commission, by the blacks under the leadership of the new African National Council led by Bishop Muzorewa.

After 1974 the pace was re-

sured. Nkomo was released and Smith was brought to the conference table under pressure of South Africa, with Kenneth Kaunda acting as mediator. The attempt failed, and so did a new conference at Victoria Falls, because the greatly outnumbered guerrilla leaders, soon to create the Patriotic Front, demanded power via a one-man-one-vote election immediately.

They backed their demands with deeds. The closing of the Rhodesia white-ruled borders reinforced sanctions and the number of guerrillas in action rose from 90 to 1,000 in eight months. In the following years the war intensified pari passu with attempts to end it by a political settlement before all southern Africa caught fire and the new Russian techniques were extended to it. Smith admitted the war was going badly, General Walls that it could not be won; white emigration leapt. After a short time, talks with Nkomo and Muzorewa, the war was opened by the Kissinger initiative, preceded by his visits to the newly so-called "front-line states" in 1976. This "package" involved majority rule in two years with safeguards for white control and security; but the Patriotic Front rejected both timetable and safeguards while Smith insisted on the package as before. A futile conference in Geneva collapsed.

Dr David Owen, Foreign Secretary, then evolved his own Anglo-American plan involving a transitional period of British control, which was upstaged by Smith's agreement with Muzorewa in 1978, granting black rule with white participation and a white veto in Parliament. This arrangement met the five principles, and, after an overwhelming election victory, won Conservative Party endorsement, but got African OAU, United Nations and Patriotic Front repudiation.

When they took power, the Thatcher Government found they could not resist this pressure, they were left in no doubt of the readiness of Nigeria and other African states to operate a sort of sanctions against Conservative plans for a British economic revival. So at Lusaka the agreement was reached under which the new conference was held which rectified the imperfections in the Smith-Muzorewa constitution and gave British temporary sovereign power to supervise the ceasefire and monitor new elections contested by all parties.

South Africa's interest in an orderly and moderate constitutional outcome was not concealed by Pretoria. In South Africa after 1974, plans for independent basistans were hastened forward after years of dawdling, even including land consolidation, and Transkei was given an independence unrecognized by the world in 1976.

In a succession of elections since 1970, the Nationalists strengthened their parliamentary position, but the Progressive Party rose on the ruins of the "moderate" United Party, and Vorster's prestige faded under the "Muldergate" scandal. The new Prime Minister, Botha, hastened liberal measures such as legalizing African trade unions in a desperate attempt to regain control over the pace of events.

Thus the decade of the eighties rang up the curtain on the final stand of the South African white laager. The looming question was whether Russian influence would spread even farther, or if the black states, in their new self-confidence, would resist "imperialism" in a new guise. The French-Chinese alliance, even strengthened their ties with France and some rapprochement with the West seemed possible as the oil crisis deepened and African states problems, their dependence on aid of all kinds enhanced by the onset of world depression. But the West had a lot of ground to make up to protect its African interests.

Far East

China and
US drawn
together

By Richard Harris

In the Far East the great change in the 1970s was the hostility and suspicion to friendship and cooperation between the United States and China. This change altered relationships throughout the region as well as the power balance. Where once the Cold War had most thrived in the air of Dulles it now, finally, died.

By 1970 the Americans had concluded that China was no longer either a dangerously expansionist power allied to the Soviet Union or the important Soviet ally in the Far East. By 1970 American public opinion despised of Vietnam and sought a withdrawal, somehow. Conceivably Sino-American cooperation could assure the peace of the region without a continuing American presence.

For their part, the Chinese had suffered serious border incidents with the Russians in 1969. A dangerous confrontation faced China with a military ally far superior to itself along their difficult frontier. The Chinese were thus more than ready to respond to secret approaches that had begun to link Washington and Peking soon after Mr Nixon's election. With Dr Kissinger's secret visit to Peking in 1971 and Mr Nixon's 1972 Japan hurriedly switched to recognition of China in the same year. A new quadrilateral of power took shape—the United States, Japan, China and the Soviet Union—with the European Community in the background.



Jubilant Egyptian troops plant their flag on top of a bunker on the Bar-Lev line east of the Suez Canal during their offensive against Israel in October, 1973.

In 1971 China had been elected to place of Taiwan in the permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. It was expected that it would emerge from the self-imposed isolation of the Cultural Revolution. But China's leadership was still a enigma. For all the respect paid by visiting statesmen to the aging Mao or the queue of countries ready at last to recognize the new China, there remained theoretical and practical uncertainties. Who could fathom the Lin Biao incident? How strong was the growing opposition to Mao? Nineteen seventy-six was the crucial year of reevaluation. When Mao died in September and the Gang of Four were arrested in October, it was plain that China would turn its back on two decades of damaging Maoist revolution struggle.

Since the Cultural Revolution the country had suffered from increasing corruption, factional fighting and strikes. Higher education was almost at a standstill but by the end of the decade a partnership between the newcomer, Hu Yaobang, and the restored Deng Xiaoping had fixed the country's sights on urgent economic growth.

Indo-China, however, remained a problem zone even after 1975 when Kampuchean communist guerrillas took Phnom Penh and Vietnamese communists entered Saigon. At once concealed animosities emerged. Pol Pot's guerrillas had swept into Phnom Penh only to drive out its population with careless brutality. This demonstrated that half-baked Marxists ruling a country totally unfitted for any kind of communist system resulted in tragic slaughter and wanton savagery.

The Vietnamese, who saw themselves as the natural inheritors of French authority in all three countries, were soon in conflict with the Kampuchean nationalist Pol Pot.

A year ago Pol Pot's government was replaced by a purely puppet regime after a purely Vietnamese military operation. This sharpened a growing conflict with China which had openly backed Pol Pot.

Vietnamese resentment of Chinese domination has deep historical roots. More recently, disagreements dated back to the Geneva conference of 1954. Nor was Kampuchea the only issue. Vietnam's treatment of the over 200 Chinese territorial disputes between the two countries had angered Peking.

Hanging over the local resentments was the greater threat to China of Vietnam's close relations with the Soviet Union, sealed by a friendship treaty in 1973. The first blunt answer came with China's 17-day invasion last February followed by threats that the assault might be repeated if Vietnam's hostility to Peking was not curbed.

Faced with this continuing turbulence in Indo-China the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) coordinated their policies toward Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines had all been ready to set up their own relations with Peking while Mr Lee Kuan Yew went to Peking to explain why Singapore could not do the same. Only Indonesia has not yet resumed diplomatic relations with China.

Aside from the serious religious problems and the continued fighting in Kampuchea near the Thai border which could make for some years to come, elsewhere in east Asia the risks of conflict grew much less in the 70s. A divided Korea, despite the unexpected assassination of President Park, will only be united by peaceful means. So, too, with Taiwan, now more open than before to Chinese favours, and the unresolved future of Hong Kong.

When the 70s began, Japan's rate of economic growth was already astonishing. During the decade the arc of economic progress that runs from Seoul through Japan to Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore has been more marked than ever. The whole region is one that rebuffs the tag of the Third World nor is it one in which the staff of American embassies are every likely to face the treatment they have been getting in Tehran. Undoubtedly, regional consciousness and neighbourly relations matter more than they were 10 years ago.



A Rhodesian soldier watches the Mozambique border for intruding guerrillas during the protracted war in the 1970s.

Middle East
A trend
towards
peace

By Edward Mortimer

Three major events have altered the political shape of the Middle East during the 1970s: the October War of 1973, the Sadat initiative of 1977 leading to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty of 1978-79. Less spectacular, but still of great importance in a historical perspective was Britain's withdrawal from the Gulf in 1971. That was a classic case of the dog that did not bark: the fact that it was not accompanied by any big upheaval was in its way no less important than the fact that the withdrawal did not occur on the other side of the Gulf eight years later.

There was also the war in Lebanon in 1975-6, costlier in human life than either the Arab-Israeli war or the Iranian revolution, and involving the virtual destruction of Lebanon as a political and social entity. Yet one of the tragic ironies of the decade is that it has affected the general condition of the Middle East remarkably little. Beirut will never be the same again. But even now it has not really been replaced as the cultural and business centre of the Arab world. In so far as it has been, it is by London and Paris rather than any other Middle East city.

In the Arab-Israeli conflict, there can be little doubt that the trend of the decade has been towards peace rather than away from it. The 1970s opened with the acceptance by President Nasser and Mr Mideir of the Rogers initiative for a ceasefire in the War of Attrition, and ended with President Sadat and Mr Begin signing a treaty in the presence of President Carter. The American role has been crucial throughout, and until 1977 American influence in the area increased steadily, while that of the Soviet Union declined. Only Libya, under the maverick Colonel Gaddafi, moved against that trend. In the years between the Iranian revolution and the Arab-Israeli peace process, however, the Geneva Middle East peace conference which had met for two days and then adjourned in December, 1973. Dr Kissinger, then Secretary of State, decided simply to ignore the issue and concentrate on bilateral and partial agreements. President Carter, when he took office, made some attempt to entice the PLO into the peace process but had to give up when President Sadat decided to go ahead on his own. The result, reached at Camp David in September, 1978, was a "framework for peace" in the Middle East which so far only Israel and Egypt have accepted.

Marxist form, but has been covered increasingly in religious terms, as a reversion of traditional Muslim values: a force that neither superpower finds easy to cope with.

The main problem faced by successive American administrations has been to reconcile commitment to Israel with the need for good relations with the Arab states, particularly those that export oil. That need has been of increasing concern to the United States during the decade, as American dependence on Middle East oil imports has grown. Even so, American support for Israel may be said to have paid off in so far as it has convinced most of the Arab states that only through secure Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory.

The October War, though it undoubtedly came as a shock to Americans at the time, helped to increase their influence in several ways. It shook the Israelis from their complacency, making them more aware of their dependence on American support. It greatly increased the confidence of President Sadat, enabling him to make a decisive break with the Egyptian establishment in the person of Anwar el-Sadat, and the loss of M Pongpud through death stopped the burgeoning Anglo-French understanding in its tracks. The war also brought a strategic alliance with the United States. And it triggered a significant rise in the price of oil, which, though later reversed, has since the United States' friends in the Middle East much richer and more influential.

Another feature of the decade has been the emergence of the Palestinian question as the central feature of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the growing international acceptance of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the instrument through which the problem should be tackled. This is one development to which American policy has had difficulty in adjusting, because of its commitment to Israel and the apparent irreconcilable positions of the two sides. The Arab states' endorsement of the PLO as the rightful owner of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (at the Rabat summit of 1974) made it virtually impossible to reconvene the Geneva Middle East peace conference which had met for two days and then adjourned in December, 1973. Dr Kissinger, then Secretary of State, decided simply to ignore the issue and concentrate on bilateral and partial agreements. President Carter, when he took office, made some attempt to entice the PLO into the peace process but had to give up when President Sadat decided to go ahead on his own. The result, reached at Camp David in September, 1978, was a "framework for peace" in the Middle East which so far only Israel and Egypt have accepted.

It was against this unpropitious economic backdrop that Britain's first seven years in the EEC were played out. As the 1970s came to an end there was no hiding the profound sense of disenchantment both in Britain and in those members

European
Community
The club
changes
for good

By Michael Horsby

Throughout the postwar period the impulse towards economic and political unity in Europe has ebbed and flowed. In retrospect it can be seen that the opening of the 1970s was one of the high water marks in the constant flux and reflux of those forces favourable to some kind of federation of Europe.

By the end of the decade the federalist idea was in full retreat on most fronts. Though the emergence of the European Community as a power to be reckoned with seemed to counter this trend.

The 1960s were a period of transitional consolidation for the EEC of the six which saw in particular the establishment of what is still the Community's most ambitious, if much criticized, supra-national venture—the common agricultural policy. It was also a period dominated by the French, who twice rebuffed applications by Britain to join the EEC club.

By 1969, however, General de Gaulle had been replaced by President Pompidou and a new wind was blowing. This change of mood was expressed in a summit meeting of the Six in The Hague in December of that year. The meeting not only opened the way for negotiations with Britain, Ireland and Denmark, but also embraced the concept of economic and monetary union, which had been envisaged in the Treaty of Rome.

On this high note the 1970s opened. Preparations for economic and monetary union proceeded apace and in Paris in October 1972 heads of government of the Six and the three members-designate agreed that full economic and monetary union should be in operation by the end of 1980, at the latest. The stages by which this ambition was to be achieved were also set out.

Britain, Ireland and Denmark had already signed a Treaty of Accession in January 1972, and they entered the Community at the start of the following year. It was a time of high confidence. The European economy was buoyant and the long era of Gaullist obstructionism seemed to have given way to a renaissance of faith in the benefits of European cooperation. But this mood was not to last for more than a year or so.

The disappearance of Mr Edward Heath into the political wilderness, and the loss of M Pompidou through death stopped the burgeoning Anglo-French understanding in its tracks. The war also brought a strategic alliance with the United States. And it triggered a significant rise in the price of oil, which, though later reversed, has since the United States' friends in the Middle East much richer and more influential.

Another feature of the decade has been the emergence of the Palestinian question as the central feature of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the growing international acceptance of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the instrument through which the problem should be tackled. This is one development to which American policy has had difficulty in adjusting, because of its commitment to Israel and the apparent irreconcilable positions of the two sides. The Arab states' endorsement of the PLO as the rightful owner of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (at the Rabat summit of 1974) made it virtually impossible to reconvene the Geneva Middle East peace conference which had met for two days and then adjourned in December, 1973. Dr Kissinger, then Secretary of State, decided simply to ignore the issue and concentrate on bilateral and partial agreements. President Carter, when he took office, made some attempt to entice the PLO into the peace process but had to give up when President Sadat decided to go ahead on his own. The result, reached at Camp David in September, 1978, was a "framework for peace" in the Middle East which so far only Israel and Egypt have accepted.

It was against this unpropitious economic backdrop that Britain's first seven years in the EEC were played out. As the 1970s came to an end there was no hiding the profound sense of disenchantment both in Britain and in those members

of the original Six such as West Germany and Holland, which had fought hardest for British entry against Gaullist resistance.

In the second half of the 1950s, Britain still thought of itself as a world power. It still had the remnants of empire to dispose of, and empire and Commonwealth—dual and the "special relationship" with America still excited more British hearts than the idea of a politically united Europe which inspired the EEC's continental founding fathers. Despite Britain's steady decline in status during the 1960s, much of this momentum and psychological ballast was carried into EEC membership.

These anachronistic British attitudes were matched by the slowness of the French, and especially the French, to accept their cosy little club could never be the way against the odds of a larger, more powerful economic interest in many cases diametrically opposed to those of the original membership.

This was true not only in agriculture, where Britain's historical position as a cheap importer ran counter to the experience of the rest of the Community, but also in fisheries and energy.

The failure of repeated attempts at reform of the EEC's democratic institutions, by the end of the decade, was a *leitmotif* of the EEC's financial resources imposed by the cost of farm price support was central to British policy, and a sharp reduction in its payments to aid recipients from the Community budget.

It was the main element in Britain's 1974-75 renegotiation of its membership terms, and as the decade closed was once again preoccupying the EEC to the exclusion of almost everything else.

These problems might have seemed less dominating if Britain's industry, antiquated labour-management relations and low productivity had responded as hoped to the stimulus of EEC membership, but this they stubbornly refused to do.

Even as the EEC was digesting this intractable, and apparently intractable, newcomer, it was faced with applications for membership from three new countries—Greece, Spain and Portugal. By the end of 1979 only Greece had completed negotiations, and was due to enter the EEC on January 1, 1981.

The establishment of the European Monetary System early in 1979, reflecting a revival of interest in monetary union (the original goal of 1959 having been quickly abandoned), and this year's bid by the first directly elected European Parliament to assert control over the EEC budget, suggested that federalism was not entirely dead.

None the less, the EEC stood on the threshold of the 1980s in a state of greater uncertainty about its future evolution than at any time since its founding.

United States

Chastened
by Vietnam
and crises

By Patrick Bragim

The spate of articles in American newspapers commemorating the 1970s have concentrated on the earlier years of that decade, which were, after all, much the most exciting: wars, riots, scandals and constitutional crises entertain newspapers and their readers make them more interesting. Not again Christian presidents and bicentennial observances.

History does not conform to the decimal system. In a rough sort of way, the last decade could be seen as a "decade" begun with the assassination of President John Kennedy in November, 1963, and ended with the departure of Mr Jimmy Carter from the White House on January 20, 1977.

What a British historian referred to in 1952 as "the illusion of American invincibility" was still present in the 1960s. Remember Kennedy's inaugural promise: "Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of liberty."

Things have changed since then. When Jimmy Carter was sworn into the presidency in 1977, he said: "We have learned that 'more' is not necessarily better, that even our greatest nation has recognized limits, and that we can neither answer all questions nor solve all problems."

The "discontinuity" turned around America's failure to defend its democracy, at least in South-East Asia, and in India-China. It was a crushing defeat for the United States, which had chosen the cause, the battlefield and the weapons. Defeat in South-East Asia was quickly followed by a Soviet offensive in Africa and on the periphery of the Middle East.

There are still, of course, plenty of Americans who believe their country omnipotent. One of Senator Edward Kennedy's slogans in his campaign for the presidency is: "We must not allow foreigners to dictate the price of American oil," and Mr John Connally, one of the leading Republican presidential candidates, says that unless the Japanese mend their ways in matters of trade, "they can sit at the bedside of Americans in their graves, listening to their Sanyos and eating their oranges."

The painful experience of the

Vietnam war taught most Americans, however, the severe limits to the power to control the world. This experience was followed immediately by the sudden loss of control over their energy supplies in 1973-74. The dollar, which once bestowed the narrow world like a colossus, had already been found to have feet of clay.

A fear was frequently expressed in the mid-70s that the United States defeat in Vietnam would heighten isolationism. These were the years when Senator Mike Mansfield, majority leader, submitted resolutions to the Senate calling for a sharp reduction in American forces in Europe.

The fears proved groundless. Americans of all political persuasions recognized that the United States could no longer hide behind oceans. Mr Carter, who promised to reduce American troops in Korea, was faced by the view that he was from the White House to set his words.

The crisis in Iran provoked a renaissance of simple patriotism. The White House calmly announced just before Christmas that studies were under way to set up a "fast reaction force" of 140,000 men which could fly to prepared bases in the Middle East. A suggestion that would have provoked calls to impeach the president five years ago passed unopposed.

The United States has more or less recovered from the traumas of the Vietnam war. It has learnt its lessons, at least for the moment, and would doubtless be better equipped upon another war as substantial as that one. The Ayatollah Khomeini may yet learn, however, the limits to American power.

The years 1963-75 saw the rise and fall of United States black militancy, which reached a paroxysm in 1971, and, of course, the anti-war movement. A few years later the two were full of articles asking whatever happened to the student radicals of the movement.

They have become respectable. Some are in Congress, many in other branches of government. The spirit of iconoclasm survived its dance away from the night of President Nixon's resignation in August, 1977, and then evaporated. Domestic politics now are wholly defined by economic questions, with the debate between the individual's realization that there is a recession, and that there could be a recession, and his own experience that his condition is better than it has ever been.

Five years after the end of the Watergate affair, it still looks like the constitutional crisis of the century. Other presidents twisted the law, some in more serious ways than Mr Nixon. It has recently emerged that President Kennedy contemplated unconstitutional assassinations of Soviet foreign leaders. Mr Nixon demonstrated that Presidents can be brought to account for their wrongdoings.

If he had not resigned, he would have been impeached and sent to trial. It will be a long time before one of his successors, misled by the imperial papalcy—and official obsequiousness that surrounds an American president, will think himself clear of the law.

The United States, then, entered the second half of the 1970s and continues into the 1980s with a chastened foreign policy, and a great uncertainty about its domestic prospects.

At the same time it is more united than it has been since 1963 and is therefore ready, rejecting isolationism, to face up to the challenges of the time—whether they come from the Soviet Union or the Third World.

Strategic Arms

Nuclear
balance

By Henry Stunz

Defence Correspondent

The 1970s opened with the United States and the Soviet Union struggling to find a formula for the first Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT). The two superpowers, governments waiting, and hoping for the United States Senate's ratification of SALT-2—the treaty which, to use an earlier, happier phrase of Dr Henry Kissinger, should "put a cap on the arms race."

Whether it will ever do that remains to be seen. But its provisions which seek to codify the nuclear arms race, to extend the types of nuclear weapons deployed, at least reflect the same race of the decade and the directions in which this had led.

Ten years ago the United States had 2,270 strategic nuclear delivery systems (SNDs), and between two and three times as many warheads. The differences in numbers was due only partly to its recent development of MIRV technology, which meant that a number of quite independent warheads covering widely separated targets could be fired to one missile.

These forces included 1,054 land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), 656 Polaris missiles, carried by a fleet of 41 ballistic missile submarines; and between 500 and 600 aircraft, most of which were long-range "strategic" B-52s. By 1970 only 10 of the ICBMs were the new Minuteman, which were armed with three MIRV warheads, and none of the submarine missiles had multiple independent warheads either. The first MIRVed Poseidon missiles did not come into service until 1971.

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sumers.
The North Sea oil was brought
in 1975. The country
is self-sufficient in oil
by the middle of next year.

Finally Dethroned

by Hugh Stephenson
Harry Dexter White and
John Maynard Keynes were
respectively the American and
the British intellectual archi-
tects of the post-war monetary

The shape of the problem is clear enough. For a quarter of a century after the devastation

the 1973-74 oil price explosion, huge dollar balances ended up in the new Arab hands. The vast offshore dollar market, which was only in embryo in 1970, added all the extra instability of a market made for speculation.

If the shape of the problem is clear, the solution is less so. The aim is easy to define. Because of the past 35 years

dollars must be taken off the market. This means that either the United States, or the IMF, or some other new institution, must offer holders of unwanted dollars the chance to change them into something else which they prefer. The logic is clear. The problem as always is the lack of political will. Politicians in the United States and elsewhere have

After a slightly uncertain start the early 1970s was marked by a short, but very sharp, boom. Output increased everywhere, with even the United Kingdom registering quite astonishing increases. Real output of 8 per cent in 1973.

In doing this, two main strands have emerged as common ground between the two main parties when in govern-

Nothing seems to have been able to stop this decline. Industrial intervention and competition have both been tried without any apparent success. Membership of the EEC seems to have provided no assistance. North Sea oil has provided a respite for our balance of payments but may have speeded up the decline of other industries.

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William Mann

Good Food Guide

A short list for the eighties

a phenomenon of fame all walks of life that people to fade from view after thirty-fifth birthday, a journalist can no longer be "young" or "pro", only "old" or "veteran", and every-thing is estimated to discover still capable of lifting bow, or paint brush.

staurants, likewise, are better treated in their cy or seniority than in prime. The demands of paper columns like this, of the competitive climate shed, put a premium on ty. It is difficult for a editor to say to his rs that restaurant X or Y is a better place but that it is a better one in two or three years time. It is a time for experiment in the gradual accumulation in understanding local before a different of customer demands on place in a "show me". Anyway, the huge cost restaurant launch and the bank loan now com- a new proprietor to t as many people as the shortest possible. Otherwise, in two years- o months—he might be is the rationalization

ing a decade of estab- ering which close on a d restaurants in this col- with three places of ous that have been in ss for a year or less. At me time, if it were a s of nominating "res- s of the year". In the decade, the names obviously be different, lightest respect is owed rs and chefs who say - five years or more. (In it would be more like a perfecting their tech- without sacrificing their les or losing their in- modifying and embel- their fundamental style. distinction list; bearing as, that the Good Food ublished in it to the only 11 survive in the ands with food or wine ions in the 1979 edition, ly 33 still appear in the

he record, here are the e Connaught Hotel in e and elsewhere. The Hotel, Chitcheamham; orn of Plenty. Gul- the French Partridge, the Elizabeth. Thornbury Castle; Bay Hotel, Ulswater; fe of Bath, Weymouth. Tree Inn, Landwell; Arbuthnot Lodge, Cork; llymaloe House, Shana- the most literal these have been the res- a list composed to the specification acciden- cles several of the influential and creative ive in Britain over the eriod: notably George nith and the Rous x (who migrated from o their present res- in Heford and Dart- ovey after five years ago, ovey at Windermere, among London en, Nicos Ladden, Guy on, and the Rous

these people have and taken, time to air mark. Few of them, i, would wish to offer customers today the and standards they er from their first 12. This should perhaps e in mind by anyone he off to try White's in, Mallet's at Rams- i the Lake Isle at Upp- (Mallet's in any case is or the whole of Janu- r at the end of 1979, ee have seemed good tips for the Eighties. sense Colin and Owen restaurant is the oldest ne's book, for it is in the Jew's House, a twelfth-century sometimes reputed to idest dwelling house in (One wonders whether ed a building society mortgage... Some ave found the place by ing Mr White's name- ner employees in the Newport, and the Old Wickham); others have mped inside by the e, hand-written menu in low, which that day in- braised oxtail and asted duck with fresh

pineapple. The oxtail—like the back and potato soup—was left on the table for second helpings.

There are only half a dozen tables, and the style, like the food, is simply conceived, with "everything home-made bar the bread". As often with new places, helpings are generous, and some visitors have flagged before they reached the orange curacao trifles or the gooseberry fool. But at earlier stages, people have been reminded of Perry-Smith's style by the jump-bonnet in its sharp white wine jelly, the light cream cheese and herb quiche, the boned chicken in pastry with Madeira and mushroom sauce, and another bean dish, sautéed des Amagnac. (Perhaps Elizabeth David's *French Provincial Cooking* is the source common to both.) The house wines are from Provence at £2.50, and there are some good Rijos at a little more.

Wine is more limited at Simon Mallet's converted shop in Ramsgate, although the house choice (Provence again) is adequate, and suits the French provincial style that Mr Mallet, too, inherited from the Perry-Smith school, via Wyse, France and London. "The bowl of oil-glistening black olives on every table is like a welcome home, and the service is natural and helpful. When I asked for a finish the space of the tripe, a second helping was suggested."

Olives—green this time—appeared again in an interesting duck dish, done with truffle and white wine, and "crisped to perfection and... if the other main dishes on the short menu equalled our sea bass in pastry with raisins and ginger, there were pleasures indeed to be enjoyed by other diners". But there are refined pleasures among first courses too: a Kentish version of tempura vegetables as a first course, lightly battered and fried, and melting hot sauce; a customer's complaint of smoked mackerel, and a slightly tart dill-seed cream on the side as a foil. Simple foods and ices, and home-made fudge with coffee, round off meals. A pity that, as a customer complains, "by the end of the evening noise and smoke levels were unacceptable."

Roy Richards' Lake Isle in Uppingham, Rutland (dwellers there tend to insist on the country) also exhibits some of the new simplicity of style which is perhaps the seventies' bequest to the eighties. But there are also differences in pedigree—Mr Richards is a disciple of Kenneth Williams, a keen and vicious interest (as the owner of a wholesale wine business, he keeps a fine cellar, very modestly marked up at wholesale prices plus £1.50 a bottle plus VAT and 10 per cent service). Richards' cellars, befits five-course dinners, are more restrained than at the other two places.

The latest meal at the Lake Isle of which an account is to be heard, was a "celebration" though not over-hot: carrot and orange soup; then admirable onion flan, daube de beef with crackling, lightly cooked cabbage, a mixed salad, a fine Siltan, and a choice of chocolate mousse or pear in red wine. Coffee was included in the £7.50 table d'hôte price, and the correspondent, further fortified by the sight of Ch Lagune and Ch Leoville-Lascazes under £9, not to mention a wide range of table wines from various countries under £3.50, began to feel that an occasional restaurant meal might not be altogether beyond his purse. And needless to say the room was blessedly silent, as Yates' Lake Isle was, apart from "the hive for the honey bee".

Details
White's, The Jew's House, 15 The Strand, London, WC2N 6EJ. Tel: 01-583 24851. Closed Sunday. Monday lunch. Must book. Meals 12.30-1.30, 7.30-10.00. A la carte meal with wine about £9.55.
Mallet's, 53 Queen Street, Ramsgate, Kent. Tel: 01622 52854. Closed lunch; Sunday; Monday, January. Must book. Dinner 7.30-10.30. A la carte dinner with wine about £9.75.
Lake Isle, 16 High Street East, Uppingham, Leics. Tel: 01509 2951. Closed lunch; Sunday; Monday. Must book. Dinner 7.30-9.30. Table d'hôte dinner £7.50.

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Chess

The prodigy's era

In the days of my youth, little more than half a century ago, the greybeards were wont to quote the Latin saying "maxima reverentia debetur pueri" rather with an innuendo of paradox than in any real belief as to its validity. There was of course the eight-year-old boy prodigy, Sammy Reshevsky, who was beating with great ease players eight times his age and eight times as stupid.

But how could you owe and indeed show the greatest reverence to an infant who, not yet having had time for cheerful yesterdays was by no means assured of confident tomorrows? Moreover, was it possible in any way to be sure of the age of someone born in a remote part of the Russian empire where and when birth certificates were not yet invented?

Well, we have changed all that and nowadays the boy prodigy is the rule rather than the exception. In the United States Bobby Fischer was a grandmaster at the age of 15 and here in England we have among others Nigel Short, 14 years old and figuring in a three-way tie for the British Championship, the other two being an international grandmaster and an international master.

But all this pales into comparative nothingness when we come to the case of the Soviet schoolboy, Garry Kasparov, whose real name, by the way, seems to be Harry Wainstain, who at the age of just 16 won a great tournament at Banja Luka in Yugoslavia. The field included a wealth of grandmasters and when the world champion in Tigran Petrosian. Despite this he was assured of first prize with two rounds still to go.

In scoring 11 out of 15 he had fulfilled the grandmaster norm and he came first 24 points ahead of the nearest challenger, the other two grandmasters who tied for second place were the Czechoslovak Smektal and the Soviet Petrosian. Next came Adorjan 23 Knezevic 8, Matanovic and Browne 7, Burtic 7, C. Garcia and Marjanovic, Marovic and Vukic 6, Hernandez and Kurajica 6 and the only other player to be, like Kasparov, nominated Shibaorovic 4.

He beat the American champion, Walter Browne, with a combination so beautiful that the Yugoslav press was moved to liken him to Bobby Fischer at the same age. I think in fact that he is superior combinationally to Bobby Fischer at that age but perhaps not quite with the classic command of gaiety that distinguished the Fischer and Capablanca in the days of their youth.

Thinking along those lines it appears to me that the only player who could stop Kasparov's inevitable approach to the World Championship would be Bobby Fischer, the unlikely great of that great player returning to the scene of the World Championship contests.

I mentioned last week how well he is doing in the 47th Soviet Championship tournament at Minsk. That tournament also contains a number of junior players of great talent. There is Sergei Dolmatov, junior world champion in 1978, and the younger Arthur Yusupov, who was the junior world champion the year before that. Another former junior champion competing in Minsk

is Alexander Belyavsky who won the title as long ago as 1973 in the Teesside ahead of Tony Miles.

The Soviet chess journal "64" gives what it calls their individual coefficient by which it means their rating number. The Soviet rating is slightly dissimilar to the Elo rating but the relations between the players are just the same. Yusupov's for example is 2,475, whereas Kasparov's is 2,510. These, in Elo rating terms, are Yusupov 2,490 and Kasparov 2,545, a rating he obtained in the preliminary Elo list for last July.

Their individual encounter was in the third round, after Kasparov had already disposed of Georgadze in Round One and Sveshnikov in Round Two. The game was an extraordinary one which followed some analysis given by the former champion, the Estonian grandmaster, Paul Keres. How far each player was aware of this is anybody's guess but the whole line seems to be bad for Black.

White G. Kasparov Black A. Yusupov Ruy Lopez, Morphy Defence, open variation.

1 P-K4 P-K4 2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 N-K3 N-K3 4 P-B3 P-B3 5 P-K3 P-K3 6 P-K3 P-K3 7 P-K3 P-K3 8 P-K3 P-K3 9 P-K3 P-K3 10 P-K3 P-K3 11 P-K3 P-K3 12 P-K3 P-K3 13 P-K3 P-K3 14 P-K3 P-K3 15 P-K3 P-K3 16 P-K3 P-K3 17 P-K3 P-K3 18 P-K3 P-K3 19 P-K3 P-K3 20 P-K3 P-K3 21 P-K3 P-K3 22 P-K3 P-K3 23 P-K3 P-K3 24 P-K3 P-K3 25 P-K3 P-K3 26 P-K3 P-K3 27 P-K3 P-K3 28 P-K3 P-K3 29 P-K3 P-K3 30 P-K3 P-K3 31 P-K3 P-K3 32 P-K3 P-K3 33 P-K3 P-K3 34 P-K3 P-K3 35 P-K3 P-K3 36 P-K3 P-K3 37 P-K3 P-K3 38 P-K3 P-K3 39 P-K3 P-K3 40 P-K3 P-K3 41 P-K3 P-K3 42 P-K3 P-K3 43 P-K3 P-K3 44 P-K3 P-K3 45 P-K3 P-K3 46 P-K3 P-K3 47 P-K3 P-K3 48 P-K3 P-K3 49 P-K3 P-K3 50 P-K3 P-K3 51 P-K3 P-K3 52 P-K3 P-K3 53 P-K3 P-K3 54 P-K3 P-K3 55 P-K3 P-K3 56 P-K3 P-K3 57 P-K3 P-K3 58 P-K3 P-K3 59 P-K3 P-K3 60 P-K3 P-K3 61 P-K3 P-K3 62 P-K3 P-K3 63 P-K3 P-K3 64 P-K3 P-K3 65 P-K3 P-K3 66 P-K3 P-K3 67 P-K3 P-K3 68 P-K3 P-K3 69 P-K3 P-K3 70 P-K3 P-K3 71 P-K3 P-K3 72 P-K3 P-K3 73 P-K3 P-K3 74 P-K3 P-K3 75 P-K3 P-K3 76 P-K3 P-K3 77 P-K3 P-K3 78 P-K3 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Michael Shanks looks at the double challenge facing the EEC farm policy

Controlling the cuckoo in the nest

If the Community is to survive
some way has to be found
of reducing the economic
and political imbalance

Mr Roy Jenkins can be forgiven a feeling of depression as he starts the final year of his presidency of the European Community which he is facing what looks like the worst crisis in its history. The Community of its life. And the fourth year of a Brussels presidency is traditionally a time in which the authority of the Commission grows and decision-making deteriorates, as the commissioners either look for new jobs or spend their time lobbying in their national capitals to ensure reappointment.

This is therefore a bad time for the Community to have to face the double challenge which has arisen over its budget. Within the past month the British bid to reduce the United Kingdom's budget contribution by £1,000m has been overtaken by the European Parliament's rejection of the budget as a whole.

These two challenges, apparently unrelated, have a common origin. This lies in the domination of the Community budget by the Common Agricultural Policy, a cuckoo which is progressively ejecting the other birds, such as the regional and social policy, from the Brussels nest through its voracious appetite for funds. It is the undue share of total Community funds which has produced the excessive, and unplanned, British budgetary contribution. It is also the reason for the Parliament's rejection of the budget.

If the Community is to survive, some way has to be found of "capping the CAP", ie of imposing a ceiling on farm support spending. The fact is that Europe's agricultural productivity has been growing much faster than anybody anticipated 10 years ago.

Most of Europe's farmers no longer need the support provided by the Common Agricultural Policy, and those who do could be helped at less cost through the social fund or the agricultural guidance fund. Farm output has grown without the disciplines of the market, since the CAP guarantees demand even when the product is in structural surplus.

The result has been a progressively more unbalanced Community. Quite apart from the special problem this presents for Britain, it has for some time been economically indefensible. The Parliament's action demonstrates that it is politically unacceptable as well.

It was predictable that sooner or later a directly-elected European parliament would seek to challenge the executive, and to secure some sort of balance between the executive and the legislature. A democratically-elected national parliament would expect to exercise. But what is significant about the present conflict is that the balance of power has shifted. The budget includes political groups who would normally be expected to side with national governments against a supranational assembly such as the British Conservative and Labour

members of the Strasbourg assembly.

This means that the issue cannot be regarded just as a conflict over constitutional authority. Wherever sovereignty should lie, the real issue is whether the CAP can be contained or whether it will destroy the Community. If the Community institutions can agree on a fundamental overhaul of the CAP the problem of the British budgetary contribution will probably be subsumed within the general examination. For an EEC less dominated by agriculture would be a much more acceptable one for the United Kingdom to belong to.

The question is whether the Community has the will to undertake this fundamental re-orientation, or whether the Council of Ministers—led by France, which among the bigger countries has most to lose—will prefer to dig in its heels and fight off what it may regard as

a straight challenge to its authority. If this happens, the prospect is grim. The Community is in no shape to enter into an internal constitutional conflict.

The alternative has to be, as I have already indicated, some modification of the CAP. But those who are demanding change have to give something as well. As I suggested in these columns on November 29, it is unrealistic for Britain to try to exclude the North Sea altogether from the European equation.

However, the unbalanced nature of the budget is only one part of the problem facing the EEC institutions. The other aspect of the crisis is the institutions themselves, and their inability either to resolve the conflicting interests of the present members or, a fortiori, to cope with the problems posed by the impending enlargement of the Community to include Greece (due to enter during the next 12 months), Spain and Portugal.

The challenge facing Mr Jenkins and his colleagues is to use their last year in office to make Europe's institutions flexible and efficient enough to service an enlarged Community of 12 better than they are serving today's Community of nine. A bruising battle between two of the key institutions, the Council and the Parliament, will hardly be helpful at this juncture. But it may be unavoidable.

If so, this simply means that the third institution, the Commission, will have to work harder to inject new thinking into the EEC. The two reports on internal structures commissioned respectively by President Cerdas d'Estaing and Roy Jenkins—the Dell Report and the Spierenburg Report—have both pointed the way forward in the past few months. Their recommendations have been very similar.

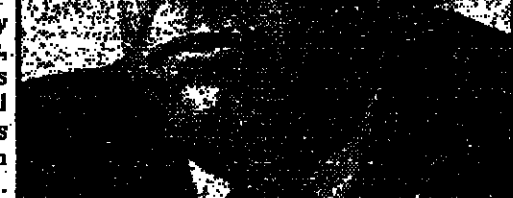
Both reports have stressed the need for a stronger, more streamlined Commission, with fewer commissioners (only one from each country), fewer directorates-general, more coordination between departments, and more authority specifically for the president, who should directly control the key portfolios of finance and personnel. The president should also have more say than at present over the choice of his fellow-commissioners. The Commission should be more independent of the Council of Ministers, and have stronger links to the Parliament. And the Council itself should improve

its efficiency, and delegate more responsibility to the EEC ambassadors in Brussels (the so-called Committee of Permanent Representatives, or *Coreper*).

The Dell Report, commissioned by the French President on behalf of the Council, was briefly discussed at the Dublin summit and referred back for full consideration at the next European Council meeting in February. Since this meeting is also supposed to settle the British budgetary problem, and will also presumably have to try to resolve the conflict with the Parliament, the agenda already looks charged. It would be a great pity if the report gets the same icy reception as the last report on Europe's future commissioned by the European Council, the Tindemans Report. But it would not be altogether astonishing.

This means that it is all the more important for Mr Jenkins and his colleagues to act on the report which they commissioned in parallel with the Spierenburg Report (on which the British

Mr Roy Jenkins, facing a crisis in his final year as commission president...



New words and new meanings.

The cowboy goes west

Cowboy as epithet has come down in the world as fast as the cowboy as cattleman used to spur down the last stage of the trail drive into Abilene to the consolation of the district known as the Devil's Addition.

It has become an insult for the reckless driver of a juggernaut lorry rather than a prairie schooner the kind of cowboy who thunders past you on the inside lane, and then cuts across. Each for himself, and God for its all, as the elephant said when he danced among the chickens.

Your modern repulsive cowboy does not have to be on wheels, though it helps. Since the 1950s cowboy has been a derogatory epithet for Teddy boys and other wild young men. Conversely in the argot of these modern cowboys, it has become a name for the police. "They didn't seem to me like cowboys. I can smell a copper in the back of a hundred feet away, blindfolded."

The latest extension of cowboy as epithet is to mean an untrained or inefficient performer. The garden of the Bishop of Exeter was peppered by golf balls from the adjacent golf course. When questioned by the press, members of the golf club blamed the trouble on "cowboys who a soap box car along. He left the mines in the only way you could under government regulations: by joining the prison service. The standing about was terrible, but it gave him his chance to play the game. It was a bit of a shock, in those days, one did not worry so much. Days out in the Vale cost nothing. He can see from his passing coach, the tracks the seven of them made together.

None of the children made any discernible impression on B. C. Coombes. Peter took them home to Glyneath regularly for the sake of his mother, and he almost put a hand to stop himself falling. The Vale looks unchanged, save that some of the peaks have been topped off for out-crop coal, and a fast road now snakes heavily through to England, bypassing the old stone lodge. Resolute in its hollow has not stirred or altered but for the larger windows the houses now have. When windows were small, the streets used to be more sociable.

Peter Coombes takes the fast road to England in the 53-year luxury coach he now drives for a living. He is 64, slight and dapper, a head he likes to call a Van Dyke and a dry, quiet line in coach-driver's features. He points out the signs of Glamorgan as he passes the old stone lodge, which he has altered but for the larger windows the houses now have. When windows were small, the streets used to be more sociable.

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The boy who escaped from the Valley of Witches

On January 4, 1941, *Picture Post* magazine published one of its many sombrely-uplifting contributions to morale in wartime Britain. Long before the tide had visibly turned, *Picture Post* was looking ahead to a nation at peace, and presumably victorious, whose probable shape, in industry, planning, education, even leisure, was discussed by such contemporary eyes as Maxwell Frye and J. B. Priestley.

Being *Picture Post*, this special number was planned for Britain, was launched by means of a powerful and poignant visual image.

A South Wales miner, B. L. Coombes, had sent in an article, as he modestly said, "about life as it looks to me and my mates". The prose, however, was that of an instinctive writer, goaded to passionate and lucid anger by national absurdities which sound familiar today.

Even in deepest wartime, many mines stood idle, there being no "market" for coal. The miner wondered why his home should be without fuel when from his window in Glamorgan he could see a mountain so full of coal that its seams cropped to daylight. He wondered why a country fighting for life should have no work for him in half middle age, or for his 16-year-old son's inventive youth.

The article appeared in *Picture Post*, accompanied by a photograph of the miner, Bert Coombes, his son, Peter, and Sam their sheepdog on a coal tip near their home in the Vale of Neath. Together they seem to gaze at the coal, their strength which comes in the British in crisis.

Peter Coombes remembers the day well, and the men from *Picture Post*. For Peter, in 1941, it was an adventure to go to Neath, six miles away, Swansea, distant and terrifyingly large, the boundary of his under-standings.

Three men came from even farther, with their tripods, their cameras, and their cameras, and the words that Glamorgan people could barely understand. They

stood Peter next to his father on the tip and told him to look as if he was looking into the future.

The cloth-capped boy, posed beside the miner and dog in quiet companionship, had special cause to remember that day. It was the first and only time he ever went out doors in his father's company or obtruded himself, without blame, on his father's attention. Whatever the future his father saw down the valley, Peter knew he could expect no share or place in it.

Bert Coombes was not, as *Picture Post* thought, a Welshman. He had come to Glamorgan in 1910 or thereabouts, driven down the causeway of hills from impoverished farming stock in Herefordshire. At Resolven, on the threshold of the Vale of Neath, he had wooed and married Peter's mother, a pit official's daughter, to her family's plainly-evicted displeasure. All through Peter's childhood, none of his maternal relatives would enter the house.

Nor was Bert Coombes's article dashed off spontaneously for his workmates' sake. He was, when *Picture Post* found him, an habitual writer with an all-consuming belief in his own literary genius. He had taken up writing during the General Strike in 1926, the year after Peter's birth. The boy's first voice upstairs, angrily shouting for quiet.

The family lived then in Resolven, in a tiny cottage next to a pub whose noise drove Bert Coombes to refuge in the book-filled front bedroom where he worked. No one in those days wanted his articles and short stories. A big old sea chest grew full to the brim with his manuscripts and rejection slips.

Peter grew up in a home ruled by the tormented absences of the thin, silent, chilly man who acknowledged his existence only insofar as it hindered his concentration.

His mother, a gentle, deflated woman served meals on time and maintained the right of the man to tyrannise. The village

disliked but faintly revered "that writer chap", pardoning Coombes his non-attendance at pub and Chapel and the ritual Sunday promenade.

When *Picture Post*'s letter came, the family had moved from Resolven up the valley to a stone lodge on the edge of the old Vaughan estate. Peter's elder sister, by that time, had been driven by their father away into service and early marriage. Peter spent his days alone, pushing his soap box cart along the unfrequented road; becoming so skilled at birdsong that he could call even owls down to the back of the house.

Already they had heard news in Resolven and, later, seen the big bombers flying low down the Vale to attack Swansea. Bert Coombes being absent, as usual, Peter and his mother took a chair each and went and sat higher up in the woods. A sound like soft rain began as the bomb shrapnel fell among the trees.

The day the *Picture Post* men came, Peter was conscious of a first misgiving stirring within himself. He had noticed before how charming his father could be to callers, especially if they

were literary people. He wondered, too, why the article implied that both father and son were unemployed. Bert Coombes still had his night maintenance job at the Empire colliery, and Peter had started work at a trainee garage hand. Most keenly the boy resented a passage where artistic licence betrayed his father's incomprehension of him. "My son", Coombes wrote, "is trying to make an aeroplane out of two old bicycles."

The article, and its haunting recognition for which he had longed. He went on to write a book, *These Poor Hands*, an account of his mining experiences whose publication through Gillian and the Left Book Club, guaranteed a sale of 100,000 copies.

Literary people sought out the eloquent miner for his vivid, subterranean wisdom. To one, John Lehmann, Coombes gave Sam the sheepdog. Peter's second friend. They took Sam to Neath and put him on a train for Bloomsbury.

Coombes had sworn, from tradition rather than concern, that Peter should never follow

him underground. It was the boy's first act of insurrection to join the very pit where his father still worked, up in Cwm Gwarch, The Valley of Witches, under the coal mountain they could see from the Lodge windows.

The seams lay, in places, three miles below ground. To reach them by "spoke", the man-carrying wagons, entailed a journey of half an hour. Down there, 20 horses worked, groomed in perfection in eight-dashed stalls, and wild, blind calves dashed past on coal-heaped trucks.

When Peter came off shift, it was to equally back-breaking labour on a smallholding which B. L. Coombes had bought with his literary earnings. Father and son toiled alternately, by day and night, seldom meeting, on poor hill land yielding little but endless obligation. Each Friday Peter would hand over his pay packet and receive its for pocket money.

My mother gave him £3 10s which he saved by secretly putting half crowns down the side of the chair. And later, courage came to find a house of his own, in the main street at Pongardawe.

Two generations look out over their native land: B. L. Coombes and his son, Peter, photographed by *Picture Post* in January, 1941

The call-up went through despite Coombes's efforts to annul it, and a question in Parliament by the Glamorgan M.P. Peter joined the RAF, travelling to Warrington. It was the first time in his life he had not looked at mountains and valleys. To begin with the flatness made him dizzy; he almost put a hand to stop himself falling.

The Vale looks unchanged, save that some of the peaks have been topped off for out-crop coal, and a fast road now snakes heavily through to England, bypassing the old stone lodge. Resolute in its hollow has not stirred or altered but for the larger windows the houses now have. When windows were small, the streets used to be more sociable.

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Sarah gave him five children, so that none would have to push a soap box car along. He left the mines in the only way you could under government regulations: by joining the prison service. The standing about was terrible, but it gave him his chance to play the game. It was a bit of a shock, in those days, one did not worry so much. Days out in the Vale cost nothing. He can see from his passing coach, the tracks the seven of them made together.

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SPORTS DIARY

Unfestive days of football

There was not much to be said for playing football on Christmas morning but something for watching. As a matter of fact, after a late Christmas Eve and a raucous dawn cracked asunder by the shrieks of excited children, the 11 o'clock kick-off dispersed the cowboys. The matches were usually local, rivalry with plenty to build a good and not always generous pool will to all men.

Wrapped in new scarves and wadding rattles that offended the peace of the day, we went off to the match, leaving mother to slave over the turkey. We said it was to keep out of her way. A colleague is reminded that a colleague was unwillingly upset at his decision to attend an away match in a neighbouring town, thus missing lunch altogether.

Others, more directly involved, were equally dis-

gruntled at having the festivities broken by this custom of playing professional football on Christmas Day, often in the morning.

William Ralph "Dixie" Dean recalled the arduous Christmas week of 1927 in a book written a few years ago by Nick Walsh who sadly died shortly before publication. Dean recalled that Everton played three games in four days and four within the week. Considering the travel arrangements of those days it was, he said, with some justification of the situation, a "much more intense itinerary" in many ways than it is today.

The team travelled to London to play Arsenal and returned to Merseyside to meet Cardiff City on Boxing Day when Dean scored twice, taking his total to 33 from 21 games. On the following day Everton played at Cardiff and on New Year's eve were at Sheffield Wednesday. The journeys amounted to over 1,000 rail miles.

That was the season in which Dean scored 60 goals in the league and a total of 100 in all competitions. Ironically, Bill Dean, as he has always liked to be known, would have no travelling problems, if he played today. He now lives not a free-kick away from the M56 at Upton but in poor health

and rarely leaves home. Modern football has not found a contemporary centre forward to be compared with the one our former football correspondent Geoffrey Green once called "the greatest of all time."

Safety valve for the canon

I am reminded by one of football's most devoted followers, Canon Reg Smith, that these Christmas holiday fixtures regularly produced what he calls "freak results". A director and dedicated worker for Bury Town, he recalls that his own club lost 5-0 at home one Christmas Day and won 5-1 against the same team on Boxing Day. He claims no credit or influence since his steady hand was not upon them in those days.

He would not have attended the Christmas Day game and would not do so if such fixtures were revived for though he says his enthusiasm for sport is such that in the absence of anything more organized he would play marbles on the church steps he says it is the special day when his devotion to Bury takes second place to his belief in the significance of the family occasion. Being a cathedral choirboy



"Dixie" Dean: 1,000 rail miles

for 12 years and being involved in the church for 30, I have never been able to go to a match on Christmas Day in any case, but I am pleased that the decision to stop came from the players. They, like most people, sense the underlying importance of Christmas and Sunday. When football was played on those days the atmosphere was always different, more restrained.

My more cynical regard for many professional footballers makes me think that few had such high principled thoughts for the religious festival but we cannot deny them their family day and as for the Canon, he serves God and Gigg Lane (the Bury ground) with a wonderful enthusiasm that glows in these days of greed within the game. His love of football and his witty speeches have made him quite famous and in demand.

A former Manchester University captain, he played until he was 50 and then the linesman overtook me twice so I decided it was time to retire.

He is really a Boken man with a natural sympathy for Wanderers but he loves Bury Town. They invited him on to their small board of directors because, as he says, they wanted someone with integrity who knew something about football.

It was a Godsend, he told me. "It provides me with a safety valve. I can put some-

thing back into the game and it makes a break from my normal everyday routine—the slog of work. When I am at a match it is my only time off."

Not that his responsibilities are confined to attending matches. He looks after the social club "because I am supposed to know something about personal relations" and can usually be seen in the foreground before games dealing with the police or others who have problems.

Sometimes one of the youngsters will say something in the dressing room and turn and say "sorry, rector", and if we are losing someone else may tell me my prayer mat is not working, but the youngsters are splendid."

Manchester City's football against Liverpool's football on Boxing Day was well worth travelling long way to enjoy. Both of these clubs attract supporters from far afield. Stories abound of extraordinary journeys undertaken to see a football match at Anfield or Old Trafford and last season I heard of an Australian who arrived on a Saturday and flew home on Monday carrying no more to

show for his visit than a programme and a cheap lapel badge.

There is a large contingent of Irish-Liverpool supporters. On Boxing Day a group flew over from Dublin and promised to present themselves at the coach upon the final whistle. Obeyingly, they were there on time and the coach sped to the airport where the plane was waiting. Unfortunately, the cabin staff, including the pilot, had not been able to tear themselves away from the exciting match and missed the bus.

No doubt it was the resourceful Peter Robinson, Liverpool's ever-efficient secretary, who persuaded rail drivers to battle against the crush to reunite crew and travellers.

But that was not the end of this Christmas story for 48 hours later West Ham played at Blackburn and won 2-1 and two days later Ipswich beat Fulham 4-2 at Portman Road. Scott, a retired schoolmaster with an eye for football statistics, may never again see so many goals in one day but Geoff Hargreaves was with West Ham in those days, scoring often enough to keep him entertained.

Norman Fox

satisfaction that comes of being one of the fortunate few who decided to watch two matches in London on Boxing Day and saw 21 goals.

He chose West Ham United against Blackburn Rovers in the morning. Blackburn, then top of the first division, won 3-2 at Upton Park with Pickering and McEvoy scoring three each. "Then I decided to battle over to Craven Cottage to see Fulham play Ipswich Town in the afternoon."

Ipswich were then bottom of the first division. If Chelsea had been playing nearer town they would have seen them but they were Blackburn. Fulham won 10-1. Leggat scored four and Howfield three. The Fulham team included Cohen, Mullery, Robson and Haynes.

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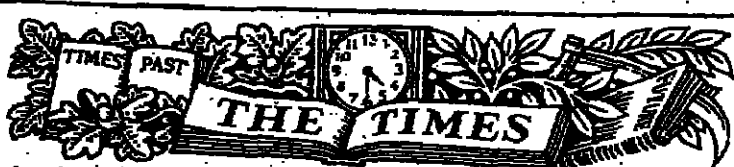
Norman Fox

Value for money

Freak Christmas results may indicate more about the digestion of the footballers than their true ability, but they have given some fortunate spectators—unusual value for their money. Scott, Chelsea's life-long active Chelsea supporter despite new living near Stoke-on-Trent, remembers the Christmas of 1963, with the

Value for money

Norman Fox



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A MORE DANGEROUS DECADE

The world as a whole devoted out £212,000m to military expenditure in 1978. This is four times as much as in 1960, or twenty per cent more at constant prices. The trend is unlikely to be changed in 1979. The fastest increase has been among developing countries, the steady state of the Warsaw Pact, but Nato still spends all other groups. Meanwhile about 660 million people in the world cannot afford basic necessities and something like eight million children died in 1979 from hunger or illness related to malnutrition. Yet the world's population continues to grow faster each year.

Figures such as these, taken from a report sponsored by the World Council of Churches, tell at least three things. First, only in the advanced countries of the West that the central theme of the 1970s was the over the party was over for most of the world the never began. Second, man is quite extraordinarily bad at managing its affairs. A spirit of enlightened self-interest, not least, the world, become a more dangerous place in the 1970s.

Use hopes burst

Looking back it is extraordinary how many false hopes rose in the 1960s to burst in the 1970s. The United States thought it could police the world; Khrushchev thought he could take the United States; Mao and his disciples in the West thought they had a new road to communism; Fidel Castro thought he set Latin America ablaze with revolution; Mr Dubcek thought he could reform communism with Soviet consent; the nations of the western world thought they could transform their own societies; Mr Wilson thought the white heat of technology could force a new Britain; consumers thought they could have an endless escalator to a better life; western statesmen thought that with enlightened programmes this prosperity would be shared with the third world; and gradually there was a burgeoning hope that as unism mellowed the super powers could bridge their differences sufficiently to bring the secure and lasting peace.

course the decade was not at that. Disillusion was setting in earlier, and the world's two main models of development were already losing adherents as the United States sank deeper into defeat in Vietnam and the Soviet Union invaded Czechoslovakia. But it was in 1973 that crisis impressed upon the mind a really acute sense of limits not only on material resources but on the ability of man to solve the problems before it—the shortage, inflation, unemployment, poverty and war.

ably the seventies are labelled the decade of loss and even if the illusion of endless prosperity was only a few small privileges of the globe the sun that radiated from the areas raised expectations of a developing world as well.

he end of the seventies model has proved flawed; a bright revolution has brought corrupt savagery or

grey normalcy; and although the centres of the world's democracies have held much better than many people expected there is little sign of the confidence which this ought to engender. The feeling persists that problems are accumulating faster than man's ability to cope with them, that irrationality is a stronger force in world affairs than many had bargained for, and above all that the two super powers are failing to live up to the responsibilities which their power imposes on them. It is this last factor which makes the looming energy shortage even more menacing than it would otherwise be.

The agreements signed by Mr Nixon and Mr Brezhnev in 1972 were always flawed by the fact that they papered over different concepts of détente. The Soviet Union claimed the right to continue manoeuvring for advantage; the United States clung to unreal hopes of a stable world. Nevertheless, even limited areas of agreement and cooperation were better than none, and there was reason to hope that competition between the two powers could gradually become less dangerous. Not everything from those days has been lost—among other things the governments' apparatus of each state probably understands the other a great deal better than before—but there remain gulfs of mistrust and misapprehension. Mutual confidence has certainly declined, and so has the confidence of each power in its ability to influence events.

Soviet build-up

The Soviet Union has used the seventies for a steady build-up of its military power which has brought it level with the United States in some respects and ahead in others. The uses to which this power can be put are being demonstrated in Africa and in Afghanistan. In Europe it will be overwhelming if Nato's modernisation programme falters. With a tightly closed system of government approaching an unpredictable change of leadership the West cannot risk putting the most generous interpretation on these changes. It may well be that the build-up represents no more than the over-insurance which has always been traditional in Russia. Perhaps it also represents a compensation for the steadily failing ideological appeal and inner confidence of the Soviet Union. If the "scientific laws of history" can no longer be relied upon it becomes more necessary to give them a push, and if people do not want your ideology they may still be interested in your weapons. Nevertheless, the West must respond to the military facts, and these are worrying.

The United States is proving in its different way as unpredictable as the Soviet Union. It too is facing a contest for the leadership, though fortunately in the open. More worrying is the fact that since the defeat in Vietnam it has lacked a generally agreed concept for dealing with the Soviet Union. Dr Kissinger was frequently at odds with Congress; now there are divisions both within the Administration and within Congress. Public opinion has swung from total reluctance to support any American inter-

ventions abroad to an almost bellicose response to events in Iran. Mr Carter has abandoned his earlier hopes of substantial arms reductions to the extent of asking for five per cent more money for defence, and he is training special forces for possible intervention abroad.

Lessons for both

Yet even if the two super powers were on better terms they would probably still feel that the world was slipping from their grasp. Both are now aware of how difficult it is to translate their power into effective political influence. The Americans have seen themselves defeated in Vietnam, humiliated in Iran and only to a very limited extent able to bring peace to the Middle East. As the dollar falls they slowly face the implications of their dependence on foreign oil. Their feeling of being uniquely favoured among nations is weakening.

The Russians are going through a comparable experience. They are no longer able to fit the world into ideological categories. In Africa, Iran, the Middle East and eastern Europe there are forces at work which, even if they sometimes swing the tide in favour of the Soviet Union, cannot be controlled or predicted. As their economic growth slows almost to a halt they must also be losing the feeling of being masters of their own fate. The socialist world turns out to be as vulnerable and as intractable as the rest.

There could scarcely be a worse moment for the super powers to be feeling both helpless and on bad terms with each other. World demand for energy and some vital raw materials is rising faster than supply, and there is no prospect of early change. This points straight to competition for scarce resources. There are few easier ways of stumbling into war. Given the difficulty of power in the world, the difficulty of controlling client states, and the dangerous proliferation of nuclear weapons, it is too much to expect the Soviet Union and the United States to keep the peace alone, but a great deal can still depend on whether they work together or against each other. Their rivalry is irreconcilable to the extent that it is not only about power but about genuinely different views of the nature of man and society, but it cannot be the interests of either to carry it to the point of endangering life. More through the failure of good intentions than the triumph of bad, that point looks nearer now than it did ten years ago.

Placing of the new airport

From Mr W. D. Peters

Sir, As a member of the Advisory Committee on Airport Policy, I feel I can now comment upon the recommendations made by that body and the decision announced by the Government.

As the debate on the need for and placing of a new airport, now matters have been controversially ignored or under-planned. Firstly is the desirable economic effects that an airport can have and, secondly, the advantages or disadvantages of the various sites in regional planning in any area.

The development of Stansted, even over an extended period, would clearly be the opposite to what was intended in the South East Regional Plan. That document was prepared in full consultation with the Government and local authorities in that region and is a very well rehearsed and properly documented policy.

What is often forgotten is that there is as much cost in money terms and certainly as much effect in the provision of housing, schools and other facilities that would be needed to service the airport in any situation and the unhappy effects which would be created around the Stansted area.

My main argument however, rests on the fact that I have never been convinced: (a) that the airport needed to be in the South East Region, and (b) that the advantages economic effects on the diversion of air traffic to other regions has been investigated to any great extent.

I know that the examinations of the short-listed sites in the South East Region have been exhaustive and far reaching. Similar investigations of any depth have never taken place on airports or sites outside the South East.

It would now seem from the Government statement that many of the doubts about the timing of the need for an airport or its ultimate capacity are accepted by the Minister. He accepts the argument that I have pursued now over several years that we must make full use of existing assets, in particular those at regional airports.

I would have thought that whilst it is not possible to remove the airport from the sites in the South East, the potential blighting which indecision may cause, nevertheless, before any build-up or reservation of new land at Stansted is undertaken, the full effects on regional planning and the true costs of urban expansion should be set in the balance.

Referring back to the economic expansion argument, I understand from your own columns of December 27 that the latest figures of unemployment in the West Midlands are 50 per cent above that in the South East.

In the timing and placing of the airport, we are considering a major investment decision remaining this century. As a person now working in the West Midlands and knowing its difficulties, I would suggest that the economic benefits of such a airport either in the West Midlands or some other site outside the South East need to be fully investigated before the Stansted decision is committed.

There are many positive arguments yet to be considered; I remain unconvinced that we need to put all our eggs in the growth potential in the South East.

Yours faithfully,
W. D. PETERS,
Green Roof,
Church Lane,
Lower Broadheath,
Near Worcester.

Blank expression

From Mr R. G. Norton

Sir, Allais Anametic Miss, Mr Kingston (December 24) is in error. This undoubted a landscape painting in Caradoc's book where the caption was misplaced. The author was misled by the signature on the back of the painting, which has been placed parallel to the long edge. But, as Allais himself says in the letter to Mr Virginia Ducas, not preserved in the Bibliothèque Nationale, this was a piece of mischief on his part. The actual painting was made in the portrait format.

Modern reproducible is that the wrong shape. I have been able to determine that the example at the Academy is approximately 17 millimetres too short, which makes a nonsense of Mr Allais' carefully chosen words. I should like to see this corrected before the exhibition closes. In matters of this kind, expense should not become a consideration.

Yours faithfully,
R. G. NORTON,
The Old Rectory,
Monks Risborough,
Buckinghamshire,
December 24.

First-class post

From Mr M. R. L. Robinson

Sir, On Wednesday, December 12, we discovered that my wife's 10-year passport had just expired. We were due to leave for abroad the following week.

I telephoned the Passport Office, Monmouth. I was told to obtain a renewal form from a post office, to complete and send it with the old passport, two photographs and the remittance to the Passport Office, Monmouth, marking the envelope "Very Urgent". I did so. The letter caught the 18.15 post from Church Stretton for recorded delivery.

The new passport arrived at our fairly remote hill village just over 36 hours later by first post Friday, December 14.

We often decry ourselves. How agreeable to be able to record such efficiency, especially at the time of Christmas mails and when passport offices are busy, which few, if any, of us can match.

Yours faithfully,
M. R. L. ROBINSON,
Minton House,
Mr Church Stretton,
Shropshire,
December 16.

Protecting individual liberty

From Lord Shawcross, QC

Sir, Like your main leading article of December 18, the case as you present it in the two recent decisions in the House of Lords in the case of *Express Newspapers v MacShane* and *Commissioner of Inland Revenue v MGN Limited*. Not a day passes without some fresh erosion of the rights of the subject, and our Supreme Court has recently exhibited a degree of pusillanimity in its defence of individual liberty against the constantly growing power of the state and the big battalions and, indeed, also in its interpretation of the criminal law as in a recent *Companies Act* case where only two out of the five lords of appeal showed much practical appreciation of the issues involved. In the *Express Newspapers* case, moreover, I fear that the crumb of comfort which you sought to derive from the speeches of the learned Lords of Appeal has little substance. In the *MGN* case, the real mischief, that four out of five of their lordships "rejected the purely subjective test" of whether what was done was in furtherance of a trade dispute, as Lord Wilberforce decided that there must be an objective test, although I find it hard to conclude whether Lord Salmon inclined to the objective or subjective test, however, he very difficult to find in Lord Diplock's opinion any "inadvertence" on this most important point and the fact is that the three law lords constituting the majority had the test in mind. The result must therefore be presumed to be that if the trade union officials concerned honestly (although mistakenly) believed that what they are doing is in furtherance of a trade dispute, the law will not intervene to protect the subject however shockingly illegal their conduct might be if done by others. As you rightly say,

Answering Vatican charges

From the Reverend Stephen Harris

Sir, Your Religious Affairs Correspondent, Mr Longley, reports only that four leading Anglicans were approached by *The Times* for comment on the Vatican ban on Professor Hans Küng.

Does he forget that Dr Küng regards the essential renewal of his church as "fulfilling the justified demands of Lutherans, Calvinists, Orthodox, Anglicans and Free Churchmen in the West?"

Dr Küng's Free Church, "Christ the King," Dr Küng's Free Church, readers have been as enthusiastic as any. He even claims for the Roman Church the tradition of reform, quoting, among other things, the statement of the Fourth Lateran Council by Pope Innocent III: *praeferendum universis Ecclesiis*.

Since his book, *On being a Christian*, appeared in English translation three years ago, it has been a most impressive and readable, incisive and scriptural apology for the historic faith available from any tradition for ministers to put into the hands of laymen. Such a voice cannot be silenced, but I grieve for the Church that any attempt should be made to do so.

Hans Küng's final paragraph headed "Human existence transcended by Christian existence" is the restatement of the great tradition of Christian humanism. I commend it, Sir, to your readers as a singularly appropriate nutshell at this season of great joy.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN HARRIS,
The United Reformed Church,
Farborough,
Kent,
December 20.

From Dr A. J. Morris

Sir, It is particularly saddening that the magisterium of the Catholic Church should choose to restrict

the teaching activities of Dr Hans Küng, a scientist, I have been trained, and am naturally inclined, to question all received knowledge, including the Catholic faith which I profess and practise. Once the process of inquiry commences, it sometimes becomes clear that there is an apparent conflict between the scientific outlook and many of the tenets of religion. The doubts which are thereby evoked need resolution and in this situation one turns to the theological community for aid. Unfortunately, most theologians fail to address the relevant questions, perhaps through a lack of scientific training and background.

Such remarks cannot be levelled against Dr Küng who, in the course of his writings, has faced many of the issues directly in a spirit of scientific inquiry. The answers given may not be complete but they do point in the right direction and indicate ways of resolving the conflict. At the very least, one sees in this type of robust inquiry that here is a man who really does believe that religion is not just the consolation of the human mind and can, therefore, withstand any genuine probing. I wonder if those who seek to restrain him have as great a faith.

Yours faithfully,
A. MORRIS,
12 Closworth Road,
Farborough,
Kent,
December 19.

From Mr Eliot Hodgkin

Sir, Mr Patrick Wall writes (December 27) "we all want to see the reunion of Christendom." Why is this always assumed? A Gallup Poll on the subject would be interesting.

Yours sincerely,
ELIOT HODGKIN,
9 Durham Place,
Chelsea, SW2,
December 27.

EEC aid to Ireland

From Mr John D. Taylor, MEP for Northern Ireland (Ulster Unionist)

Sir, The Government must be congratulated for its veto of the EEC proposals for distribution of the Non-Quota Section of the Regional Fund. The Quota Section gives a 27 per cent allocation to the UK and it was hoped that in order to strengthen Community investment and regional development in the poorer nations, the new Non-Quota Section would have given the UK more than 27 per cent. Alas, there was no such provision and instead the Non-Quota allocation was being increased for richer nations such as France.

Likewise the Non-Quota proposals for the cross frontier scheme between the UK and the Republic of Ireland are discriminatory. In the Republic of Ireland, all five counties along the frontier were to be aided by £10 million, whereas in the UK, only specially selected districts areas within the four counties, along the frontier were to be aided by £5 million.

Member of the Regional Police Committee. I acquired why there was not to be £10 million for the UK as there was for the Republic of Ireland and I was told that this would be impossible as it would increase the UK's share of the Non-Quota Scheme over 27 per cent. Likewise, when I queried the proposal not to aid the frontier counties in Northern Ireland, as was the basis in the Republic of Ireland, I discovered that this was a previous arrangement agreed between the last Labour Government and the Dublin Government. The net result of this arrangement is that the cross frontier scheme in the UK was to be limited to seven districts, six of which have pro-republican majorities, and that the other five within the UK frontier counties have been excluded. Needless to say, all five excluded districts have pro-British majorities. The suggestion that this EEC cross frontier proposal should be rejected to encourage tourism, development and rural credits in such areas as Crossmaglen, Carrickmore or the Bogside is discrimination at its worst. It is unfortunate that the last Labour Government agreed to this Dublin proposal.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN D. TAYLOR,
Midshire,
Armagh,
Northern Ireland,
December 19.

A new site for the British Library

From Professor Hugh Thomas, and others

Sir, The Department of the Environment is proposing to sell the reserve site in Bloomsbury, the site of the British Library. If this is done, it will be far more difficult for Her Majesty's Government to reconsider the whole problem of resiting the British Library.

The present plans for such resiting will be enormously costly and are vigorously opposed at positively hands by many men of letters and scholars, and others who use the library.

A report setting out detailed objections and making alternative proposals has been sent to the Minister for the Arts. No reply to the arguments has been received, although these proposals would save at least £200 million (as well as large and increasing running costs) and would preserve the Reading Room and the King's Library for their original purpose.

We know how difficult it is to reconsider plans already approved, but this is an important national issue. We urge the Government not to tie their hands by an early sale of the Bloomsbury site, remembering that the Conservative Manifesto included both reduction of public expenditure and preservation of the national heritage.

Yours faithfully,
Hugh Thomas, 10, Bedford Square, London, WC1P 3EJ.
Philip Gaskell, 10, Bedford Square, London, WC1P 3EJ.
John Gifford, 10, Bedford Square, London, WC1P 3EJ.
John Gifford, 10, Bedford Square, London, WC1P 3EJ.
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John Gifford, 10, Bedford Square, London, WC1P 3EJ.
John Gifford, 10, Bedford Square, London, WC1P 3EJ.

29 Ladbroke Grove, W11,
December 22.

Taking cycles by rail

From Mr P. M. Haydon

Sir, I refer to the recent article about the conveyance of bicycles by train (December 7).

The free cycle scheme was introduced in 1977 with the object of promoting optional and leisure rail travel by cyclists.

With two years' experience of the scheme behind us, we have found that an increasing number of commuters are using the facility to bring their cycles into London and this has created considerable problems at peak times. Our main task in London and the South East is the mass movement of people, and rolling stock is designed with limited van space or in some cases none at all, in order to make the maximum amount of room available for passengers.

There have been:

(i) delays to trains because of the loading and unloading of cycles.

(ii) conflict between passengers and cycles on platforms, staircases and at barriers.

(iii) many examples of inconsiderate behaviour by cyclists, who ride across concourses and along platforms.

The situation is further complicated by the introduction of new rolling stock with sliding doors, which has made it difficult to load and unload cycles.

In the interests, therefore, of the majority of our customers, we have found it necessary to impose a ban on cycle conveyance at peak times in 1980. Restrictions are not applied lightly and we shall be reviewing the situation later in 1980.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. HAYDON,
Passenger Manager (Marketing),
222 Marylebone Road, NW1,
December 21.

Selling the Warwick Vase

From Mr Alec Clifton-Taylor

Sir, If Glasgow City Council is really so hard pressed to find the money to house the Burrell Collection (report, December 24) there is, I would suggest, one object which might be sold without detracting in any way from the overall quality of that marvellous assembly of objects of art, and that is the Warwick Vase.

A more un-Burrell-like object it would be difficult to find. I do not believe that Sir William would have considered for a moment acquiring so absurd a piece: an example of *folie de grandeur*, surely, that has very little to do with art.

It is true that the American museums are interested, why, even now, stand in their way?

Yours faithfully,
ALEX CLIFTON-TAYLOR,
15 Clareville Grove, SW7,
December 24.

Undipped headlights

From Mr J. A. Humphrey

Sir, The part of Peter Wymark's article today (December 21) relating new equipment to be installed in vehicle testing stations, particularly the new facilities for checking headlamp alignment, is encouraging. However, in my experience a car dipped resolutely towards the trees more than likely to be less than three years old, has not seen the inside of a MOT testing station and therefore will presumably light up the night sky for a full three years before its first compulsory check.

A vehicle goes through a pre-delivery check by the dealer; the motorist is then required to have his lamp testing facilities; an individual may take note of signals received from oncoming drivers—but there is no compulsion. There is scope here for a "mini-MOT" test before a new car is allowed on the road?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN A. HUMPHREY,
Rerons,
Angels Road,
Wivenhoe,
Essex.

Long lease

From Mr A. L. Lowth

Sir, I have always understood a long lease to be for 99 or 999 years, not 100 years.

I have just received a draft lease to approve on behalf of a client—it has been typed on continuous but perforated computer paper and measures 4ft in length!

Yours faithfully,
A. L. LOWTH,
Lampont Bassitt and Hiscock,
46 The Avenue,
Southampton.

of the River Plate

From G. M. Watson

I am glad to read for the first time a more accurate account of the wreck in the River Plate area (December 13).

A "man in the street" well versed in press, radio and television news, and who had been in the River Plate area since Graf Spee was scuttled, said:

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal
investment and
finance,
pages 18 and 19

Stock markets
FT 100 417.6, up 3.1
DAX 100 417.6, up 3.1
Nikkei 225 11,000, up 100

Sterling
2.2345, down 55 points
100 £/\$ 1.58, down 0.2

Dollar
index 85.1, up 0.2

Gold
\$10 an ounce, down \$1.00

3-month money
rate 17 1/16 to 16 1/16
100 £/\$ 1.58, down 0.2

IN BRIEF

Subsidies of
£m for
Japanese
building

will provide subsidies
of £3.50m (¥54m)
to Japanese firms for
building lines build 1.04
gross tons of ships under
official programme
April, next year.

total, approved by the
ministry, includes
£80. The rest over the
seven years in
aid by the government.
Subsidies are intended to
offset differentials and
the rates of interest
shipping lines to about
£1 per annum.

ps reach £1.4m

Skyscrapers, the Isle of
Man, a aerospace company,
led the minimum sub-
sidy of £1.4m with its
£1.4m for sale. The com-
pany is now able to start
its project to develop
man-air craft.

merger ruling

the Department of
Beverage Control has
ruled that the proposed
merger of Johnson and
Group would not con-
stitute a "sided house"
in California.

de deficit

United States trade
deficit to \$1.42 billion in
1979, it was announced in
a report yesterday.

rates rise

er cent general rate
in a near freight move-
ment. United States
Australia and New
all become effective
1.

engines loan

to make a loan of
£1.4m (about £3.3m) to a
joint venture between Rolls
Royce and two Japanese
partners to develop a
new commercial air-
craft engine.

ports up

exports in 1979 are
to have totalled
£10m (£3.38m), an
increase from 1978,
Export Board says in
a review.

turning

man employers in
have warned union
a 10 per cent wage
steel workers could
sack in the industry.
is due to start
on the claim by JG
rope's biggest engi-
ne.

oil exploration

inning, the British
exploration company,
d to spend \$83m
over the next eight
years in oil and
in Egypt's western

its record

nts and parts worth
were bought this
two the Swedish car
rom its 300 United
suppliers. The com-
pany's record 36,500 cars
a rise of 22 per cent

Extension of kits contract with Iran expected by Chrysler UK

By John Huxley

Chrysler (UK) is now confident that, barring any further serious political unrest or deterioration in trading conditions, its contract to supply kits to Iran will be extended.

The company has a 10-year deal to supply parts for the Peugeot 504 to the Iranian National Industrial Manufacturing at its plant near Tehran. The contract is due to expire in 1980, but 12 months' notice is required by each partner if it is to be terminated.

So far the contract is believed to have been worth more than £1,000m, although Chrysler has never put a value on the work.

The export sales performance of the company has been badly affected by the political situation in Iran, which accounts for about two-thirds of Iran's car output.

The proportion of finished cars produced locally has been increasing for a number of years and this has reduced the amount of parts supplied to the Iranians.

Chrysler (UK) officials remain cautious about the situation in Iran. However they say

that work is slowly returning to "normal" levels and there are no longer any payment problems.

Over the past decade, production targets for the Peugeot 504 have been set at 12,000 units but earlier this year production dropped to 4,000 a month. At the same time the Peugeot 504 has been working, partly to conserve stocks at a time when supplies were uncertain.

Production has since climbed to 6,500 cars a month, according to Chrysler sources. There are now plans to return to two-shift working and a predicted output of 9,000 cars a month.

The value of export sales to Iran during 1978 was £104m. This accounted for more than a half of Chrysler (UK) exports. Sales in Iran in 1977 were slightly higher at £108m.

Production for the resumption of exports to Iran was held up this year by the 14-week strike at Chrysler's Stoke plant. This meant that normal production did not resume until October 25.

Chrysler (UK)—which became a public company on January 1—earlier this month was successful in its negotiations to achieve the substantial productivity improvements demanded by its parent, Peugeot Citroën. The French company has also won a share in the Iranian car market.

Mr George Turnbull, managing director of Chrysler (UK), has said that he is looking for a 25 per cent improvement in productivity. But he has given no indication of how this is to be achieved.

Chrysler (UK) officials remain cautious about the situation in Iran. However they say

New deputy chief for Monopolies Commission

By Derek Harris

Commercial Editor

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission, which will investigate anti-competitive practices when the Competition Bill becomes law early next year, has a new deputy chairman, Mr Jeremy Hardie.

Yesterday Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, announced that Mr Hardie, a partner at Dixon Wilson and Co, chartered accountants, and a member of the commission since 1976, will become deputy chairman on New Year's Day. He replaces Mr Tony Richards, a member of the Stock Exchange.

Like Mr Richards and Sir Max Brown, the other deputy chairman, Mr Hardie will serve part-time. The appointment is for three years.

Mr Nott also announced three-year reappointments of four commission members: Mr John Eccles; Mr Robert Marshall; Mr John Sadler and Miss Rita Stephen.

Although Mr Hardie, who is 41, and also a deputy chairman of the National Provident Institution, is expected to be a

strong influence at the commission, Mr Nott has yet to announce his detailed plans for strengthening the commission for its task under the Competition Bill.

Earlier this year Mr Nott said that he was considering appointing one or possibly two full-time deputy chairmen to the commission. Two could still be appointed eventually because the commission's establishment allows for three deputy chairmen and Sir Max Brown's appointment runs out in June 1981.

Some industrialists have been approached to take on a full-time job but so far without result, it is understood. The only other full-time membership post at the commission is that of Mr John Le Queux, the chairman, who is a lawyer.

But the commission's secretariat is already being strengthened, largely by specialists, in preparation for the commission's new task.

The commission's regular meetings will remain at 24, although up to 27 members could be appointed. Work under the new competition legislation faces two questions.

One is how quickly the commission can adapt from taking

several years to produce sector reports to being administered more like the Price Commission.

The Price Commission had to produce investigations of companies within three months. The Monopolies Commission has been committed by Mr Nott to producing reports quickly.

When Mr Nott asks the commission to investigate a public sector body like a nationalised industry, the inquiry will have to be completed within six months, although a three-month extension is possible.

The commission is expected to get three to four of these references each year. The Government has already announced that the first will be into the south-east commuter services of British Rail.

The commission was also recently asked to investigate some Post Office letter services and a quick report is expected although the action was taken by the Government under earlier legislation.

Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, is also expected to be making competition references to the commission under the new competition laws which would normally involve a single company. Mr Borrie may make 20 or 30

preliminary investigations of practices that appear to distort competition. He could take up to three months to complete his inquiries.

He is empowered to accept undertakings from companies, so it remains to be seen how many of his inquiries result in a reference to the commission for full investigation. Because the commission would have the results of the director general's investigations, it would normally be expected to report well within six months.

The other question facing the commission is how it will adapt to developing what will amount to competition case law. The Government turned its back on legislating against specific practices — unlike America — in favour of a more flexible approach.

Interpreting the principles of the Competition Bill, which have already led to tortuous discussions at the director general's office, could be a challenge to the commission's accustomed methods of dealing with previously the commission usually empowered the requisite number of commission members and made no concerted attempt to bring all the

commission together regularly to formulate common approaches on points of principle thrown up by successive investigations.



Mr Jeremy Hardie: expected to be strong influence.

Growth in imports of chemicals to Britain may be slowing down

By Our Industrial Staff

Chemical imports during the first nine months of this year were about 18 per cent up on the same period in 1978. However, there are now signs that the rapid growth in imports over the last two years may be slowing down.

The level of imports in the third quarter was not significantly greater than the average for the first two quarters, according to figures published in *Trade and Industry*.

Overall, chemicals industry exports during the first nine months of 1979 were about 3 per cent higher than last year, and a similar, modest growth is expected for the whole year.

International trade features strongly in the chemicals industry, with more than 42 per cent of sales overseas. In 1978, it

recorded a trade surplus of £1,402m. In the decade to 1978, the growth rate for exports was 21 per cent, outstripping that for imports by 0.5 per cent.

Although the latest set of government figures suggests a further improvement in Britain's chemicals trade balance, export prices have risen by about 18 per cent since the start of 1978. Import prices have not been rising so fast, which will make them increasingly competitive in the United Kingdom market.

Overall, chemicals industry exports during the first nine months of 1979 were about 3 per cent higher than in the same period of 1978. However, there are signs that the present buoyancy will not last. Demand is beginning to

That buoyancy may reflect a

high level of stockbuilding aimed at preempting further price rises or insuring against disruption of supplies.

Organic pigments and dyestuffs and fertilisers have shown above-average growth so far this year. Among the poorer performers have been the pharmaceuticals and synthetic resins industries.

Meanwhile, a confidential study commissioned by the Scottish Office has concluded that further opportunities exist in Scotland for the manufacture of downstream products derived from petrochemicals.

The report by Trichem Consultants, says that at best only one new petrochemical complex is viable in Scotland before 1990, apart from the ethylene cracker being built by Esso at Mossburn, Fife.

Fed statistics highlight importance of Britain to American banking

The volume of assets and liabilities of United States banks in the third quarter of this year. New statistics released by the Federal Reserve Board underline the significance of Britain for American banking.

The figures show that total liabilities by overseas United States bank branches rose by \$24,408m in the three months to the end of September to total \$281,585m (about £125,700m). This represents a gain over the previous 12 months of \$56,557m.

Total assets at the end of the third quarter were \$262,376m, compared with \$250,527m at the end of June and \$225,534m at the end of September 1978.

The United Kingdom, according to the figures, is by far the most important foreign asset and liability centre for the overseas branches of American banks. On the liabilities side

the United States branches had British claims at the end of September of \$49,479m, while the assets total for the United Kingdom stood at \$48,101m.

The figures do not shed light on United States banking relationships with Iran, as all dealings with Iran are placed together with those of Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. As a group, these Middle East oil producers are major United States banking clients, with the American banks having liabilities in this area at the end of September, 1979, of \$22,844m and assets of \$8,322m.

The figures only partly reveal the degree to which United States banks are involved in international finance. More comprehensive information covering the period to mid-1979, and including the maturity structure of outstanding United States bank claims on foreigners, should be released by the Fed in the near future.

Gold price falls from \$518 peak

By Caroline Atkinson

Gold jumped to new record prices yesterday morning, but then dropped back. It finished the day at \$510 an ounce in London, down a single dollar from Thursday's record close.

The bullion market was busy in contrast to the quiet post-Christmas foreign exchange.

Gold rose to \$515 an ounce at the morning fix, continuing its overnight rise in the Far East. It peaked at about \$518 in the late morning and then fell sharply after the opening of the New York markets.

Trading houses on the American market saw a number of small investors drove the price down to \$504, before it recovered at the close. Dealers expect the market to pause for breath now that the \$500 an ounce level has been breached.

The dollar firmed slightly from Thursday's lows against most European currencies, gaining 0.2 points on its effective tradeweighted index. Markets are not expected to show much movement until after the new year.

Directors fear impact of new worker rights

By Patricia Tisdall

Company directors are worried that a government proposal which would force them to take account of employees' interests as well as those of shareholders. The Institute of Directors says that the proposal, incorporated in the Companies Bill, could create a conflict of interest between the directors of a subsidiary company and those of its parent organization. They are also worried that the clause will prove harmful to creditors.

In a letter to Mr Reginald Eyre, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of Trade, the IOD says the directors of a wholly owned subsidiary who receive instructions to wind up the operation from the parent board would be placed in a difficult position.

The instruction may be in the interests of the employees of the group as a whole, but to the disadvantage of the subsidiary's shareholders. Similar conflicts could arise where the subsidiary's directors are told to repay loans or to pay dividends to the parent company.

There is a solution within the present clause, but the Institute says it is clumsy and bureaucratic. It believes the clause will introduce "inflexibility and red tape" into transactions within a group because attention is focussed on the individual company, not the group as a whole.

A more general objection is that the clause extends a new and special recognition in law to employees, although in practice they are just one of a number of groups who otherwise relate to each other on the basis of the law of contract.

The most important other category listed by the Institute is that of creditors. Creditors were an identifiable interest group which company law had traditionally sought to protect. The Institute maintains: "Their interests ought to have the same regard from directors as those of employees."

The directors' views have come too late for the committee stage discussion of the Bill. However, members told Mr Eyre, they hoped their comments would be taken into account at the report stage.

Oil groups put up petrol prices

Continued from page 1

Mobil has increased its wholesale prices by 3p; this will probably rise to 4p at the retail pumps to allow for the Saudi Arabian increase and the North Sea price rises in November.

The cheaper oil from the North Sea is now likely to be about 117p a gallon and average about 115p, but these prices may hold for less than a fortnight.

All United Kingdom petrol groups are waiting to see how far the state-owned British National Oil Corporation will raise its prices for North Sea crude. North Sea oil now fulfils more than half of domestic requirements and the

size of the rise will be crucial to further increases in petrol prices.

North Sea prices are likely to follow the trend set by Libya, Nigeria and Algeria, the north African producers of similar quality oil, which have already increased their prices to \$30 a barrel. The corporation will not fix its price until the trend of the oil price has been established, but the rise will take effect from January 1.

When all the increases are added together four-star is likely to go up by a further 3p or 4p a gallon, making a total of about 8p.

REVISED OPEC PRICES

The following are prices announced by members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for 1980.

\$ per barrel (barrel=35 gallons)

Saudi Arabia 24.00
Iraq 24.00
Iran 24.00
Kuwait 24.00
United Arab Emirates 24.00
Algeria 24.00
Libya 24.00
Nigeria 24.00
Indonesia 24.00
Venezuela 24.00
Equatorial Guinea 24.00
Gabon 24.00
Chad 24.00

Price change still to be announced.

China to attract foreign capital by floating shares

From Jo McBride

Hongkong, Dec 28

China is to float shares to attract foreign capital for developing its Fujian province in the south-west of the country, the New China News Agency reports. The shares, expected to be floated in 1980 to finance foreign trade, will be issued to overseas Chinese living in south east Asia.

The agency reported that the announcement had been made at a recent provincial meeting. The Fujian Investment Corporation was formed early this year to boost exports, promote joint ventures with foreign businessmen and handle distribution of goods within the province.

The amount of capital the corporation holds has never been disclosed and the news report gave no details of the share flotation.

While the sketchy report raises many questions, it fits well into what is already known of the enterprise's plans.

Overseas Chinese investment corporations were active in several provinces until the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s.

When Fujian and Guangdong provinces were allowed to re-activate such schemes in May, the Fujian corporation was specifically empowered to "issue stocks and handle investments from overseas Chinese and Hongkong and Macao compatriots".

Such "fraternal" investments are not seen as essentially undermining the communist principle of "self-reliance".

In June Wen Wei Po—the Hongkong newspaper generally thought to reflect Peking's views—suggested that the Guangdong corporation might one day issue something like redeemable preference shares valid for five, eight or 12 years, with 12-year paper yielding 8 per cent.

The China News Agency also reported a probable minimum—but not a fixed maximum—yield of 8 per cent on 12-year paper possible issued to finance Fujian development.

Before dividend payments ceased abruptly in January 1967, the former provincial investment corporations routinely paid a fixed dividend of 8 per cent on shares with a stated value of 20 Renminbi (about £16). Shares were bought half in Chinese and half in foreign currency but dividends were paid entirely in foreign currency.

Total overseas Chinese investment in the corporations at the time they were closed down is estimated to have been well over \$40m (£18m).

The apparent loss of this sum by investors is not necessarily a disincentive to future investments, to which the overseas Chinese' affection for the motherland is a considerable spur.

PRICE CHANGES

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274 to 274 1/2
120 to 120 1/2
40p to 40p 1/2
right 10p to 9p

51 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
52 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
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Bank of Korea 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
Bank of Luxembourg 5.16 to 5.11 1/2

Bank of Malaysia 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
Bank of Mexico 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
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Bank of Zaire 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
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Bank of Sierra Leone 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
Bank of Somalia 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
Bank of South Africa 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
Bank of South Korea 5.16 to 5.11 1/2
Bank of Sri Lanka 5.16 to 5.11 1/2

Discount scheme has cut profit margins unacceptably, retailers say

Matched dealing for cigarettes stubbed out

Matched dealing discounts on cigarettes, which at their peak were removing 6p from a packet of 20, will be phased out by the end of this month.

The scheme, which was introduced by the Retail Confectioners and Tobacconists Association (RCTA),

Matched dealing was used by manufacturers to offer discounts if the retailer matched the discount out of his own profit.

Mr Harry Tipple, president of the RCTA, said that with cigarettes yielding only a 10 per cent margin to retailers—between 5p and 6p on every 20—the shared discounting had been cutting unacceptably into the retail margins.

This marketing tool, a key in the once bitter price war for the king-size market, was not welcomed at first by many RCTA members, according to Mr Tipple. Some tobacconists saw sales rise at first but, as with trading stamps, once most outlets were using matched dealing, sales pat-

terns tended to settle down as before and the individual tobacconist found reduced advantages in the system.

The scheme first appeared in 1976 but took off in mid-1977 when Imperial Group, which controls W. D. and H. O. Wills and John Player, used the system to boost its share of the king-size market.

Although Imperial was the only cigarette market leader it had only about 35 per cent of the king-size sector in 1977. By early 1978 its share had jumped to 50 per cent.

This share has fallen to just under 45 per cent after British American Tobacco entered the British market in 1978 with its king-size State Express 555 brand.

Matched dealing, which had started off with equally shared 2p cuts on 20 packs, rose to as much as 6p a pack, although BATs chose low launch prices as its main marketing route and not matched deals.

The king-size sector is still growing and

it may rise to 80 per cent of the cigarette market from its present 63 per cent, but the intense price war has been showing signs of petering out.

But "flash packs"—so called because of wrapper messages indicating a manufacturer's discount offer—have been reappearing, sometimes as "special price" packs.

Will's Embassy Filter, an Imperial brand, still offers coupons and has maintained its 6 per cent market share. But the 20 per cent duty, which coupons now carry under an end-product taxation system, probably means coupons are unlikely to be the next big marketing tool.

But the Government is likely to win tighter cigarette advertising

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Bouquet of the decade

About half the population of Britain invest through the Department of National Savings. It is a big responsibility looking after the money of people who are among the least financially knowledgeable—children, the elderly and the less well off.

At the beginning of this decade the Department of National Savings was falling down on this job. There was much scathing criticism of governments in the past for the gigantic "con trick" being played on the financially naive.

In 1970 the interest on the National Savings Bank ordinary account was the same 2½ per cent that it had been when the old Post Office Savings Bank (as it was then) first opened its doors in 1861. In fact, about all that could be said in favour of National Savings offerings was that they could be bought at some 22,000 post offices up and

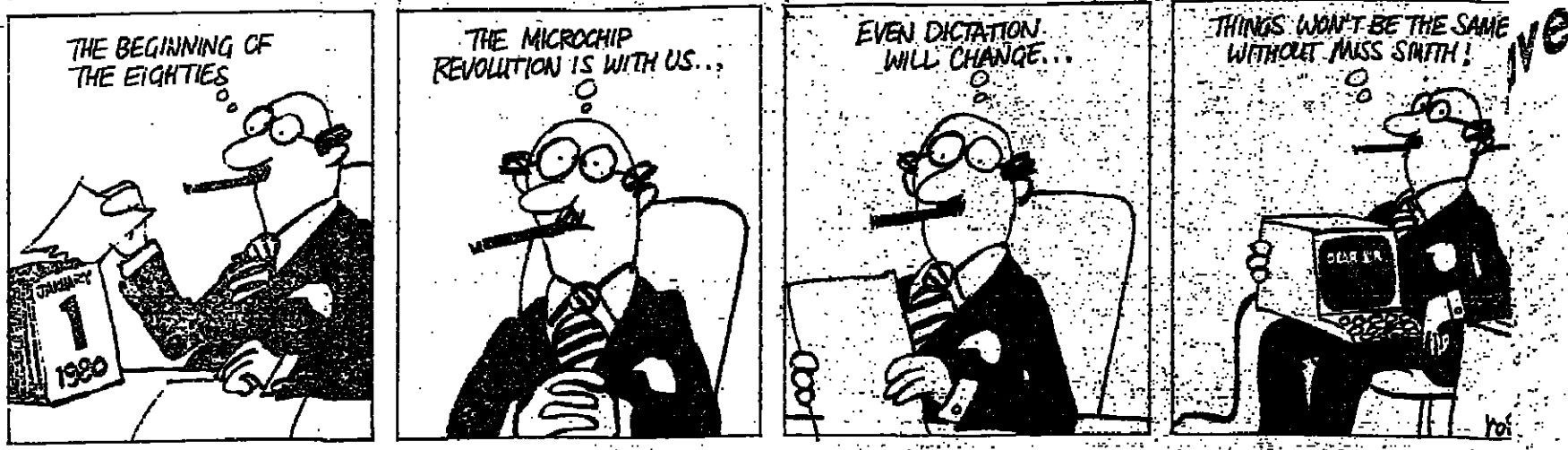
down the country and they happened to be open on Saturdays.

But this decade has brought a transformation. National Savings Bank investment accounts are the scourge of the building society movement, with the attractive and competitive rates they offer. The Savings Certificates are issued and withdrawn at a commendable speed to ensure that the returns remain competitive.

No other savings institution in the country can match the index-linked Save-As-You-Earn savings scheme or the index-linked Retirement Issue of Savings Certificates.

As to Premium Savings Bonds, they were around in 1970 but now have a more attractive prize structure and I have high hopes that by the end of the nineties there will be football pool-sized wins.

HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



Pensions

Divorce: who gets the widow's mite?

When couples divorce they are usually too busy arguing about the more tangible spoils of marriage such as the house, the car or the furniture to concern themselves about pension rights when the breadwinner dies.

Strictly speaking divorced wives lose their rights to their ex-husbands' widow's pension. But they may be able to lay claim to other discretionary payments made by pension schemes under the broader definition of "dependants".

Most of the working population is now in an earnings-related pension scheme—either through the state pension fund or an occupational scheme. The rights under these schemes are not as clear-cut as those of divorced wives' pensions is something that has exercised the minds of the legal profession.

It is not a problem that should arise with a relatively young divorcee who can work and build up her own entitlement. But an older wife, say one in her fifties, who has never worked and is, after divorce, living on maintenance payments is clearly in a dilemma. Even if he has not remarried she will not be able to claim the widow's pension as of right.

Not so long ago our own Occupational Pensions Board suggested that the courts be given power to allocate pension benefits after divorce. But in its report *Family Property: family provision on death* the Law Commission decided that it would be too great a burden to place on the courts of a pension fund who can confidently be expected to act conscientiously, to the scrutiny of the court.

But with the high and rising divorce rate and greater recognition of mistresses' financial rights, pension fund trustees might well crave some guidance. None more so than the trustees of one pension fund who found, on the demise of their company's disabled liftman (who had one leg in the war), that one wife and two mistresses were claiming to be his dependants.

The precise rules on widow's pensions vary from scheme to scheme. Many funds now call it a widow's pension, or simply dependant's pension. The trustees then do have some discretion as to who gets it.

There is, however, one proviso. The *in situ* widow, whether she is the fifth or the fifth wife and whether she was married to the husband for one year or fifty, must, under the pension rules, receive benefits at least as good as she would get under the earnings-related state equivalent.

Since many occupational schemes provide rather better benefits it follows that an ex-wife, or anyone else who can convince the trustees of their need, might be able to qualify for part of the extra slice of the widow's pension.

There will, however, be some lump sum payments to be made at the discretion of the trustees. If a man dies before retirement there may be a sum equivalent to three or four times his salary. Or the fund may give part or all his own contributions. Normally this would go to the man's widow and family, but anyone who is a dependant may be considered a suitable recipient by the trustees.

An ex-wife cannot, however, sue the trustees for the money in the same way she can sue her dead husband's estate for support and discretionary payments by pension funds do not come within the scope of the inheritance laws. It is not something a husband can give away in his will. By the same token he can only express a wish to the trustees about where he would like the money to go.

It must be difficult for trustees to sort out the conflicting claims of various wives. They have a duty to pay some attention to the fund as the husband felt about it, but no obligation to carry out his wishes.

In several divorce cases the wife's future loss of her widow's pension was considered by the court to be serious financial hardship and the husband was refused a decree until he made alternative arrangements to provide for his wife should he die before her.

Frequently, when faced with an aging wife, the courts will demand that the husband take out some kind of deferred annuity to take the place of his widow's pension. But if he him-

Insurance

Time for a rethink

From next Tuesday anyone who buys certain types of life insurance will have a statutory right to withdraw within a limited period—and to obtain a full refund of the whole of the first premium.

The idea has taken a long time to come to fruition. It was recommended in the Hillyard Scott committee's report on unlinked life insurance in 1973, and was incorporated in the Insurance Companies Act 1974, sections 65-67.

The first proposals for "cooling-off" were made in 1975 when the Department of Trade envisaged a lengthy and complicated statutory notice which would provide detailed information to each policyholder about his policy—but which might not be read.

Instead, it was finally agreed that the notices to be sent by the insurance companies to policyholders (not by way of brokers or other introducers of the business) should be sharp and clear, telling them about the limitations of the policy and giving them the right to cancel.

To preserve good relations, the great majority of life offices have been prepared to cancel policies (and make a full refund of premium) if policyholders wanted to get out at the outset.

Except for the fringe companies not falling into that category, the cooling-off regulations are not really giving a buyer of insurance much that he did not have before.

There are, however, two important points. First, every body taking a policy will be told that he can cancel, without loss, if he wishes to do so.

Secondly, the statutory notice gives helpful advice—not only about taking out the policy but also about making it paid up or surrendering. A salesperson is unlikely to put the points so clearly—or in writing.

If the new regulations stop over-selling they will have achieved much. Will a salesperson be quite so aggressive if he knows that his client will be sent a notice explaining the policy and saying how it can be cancelled straight away?

Certainly, it is much better for everybody for a policy never to be sold than to be wrongly sold and then have to be cancelled.

For practical reasons, the cooling-off regulations do not apply to all policies. Single premium policies are excluded. Otherwise, somebody could buy a unlinked contract and, if the units fell in price, he could cancel and buy another—getting more units allocated for his money.

Also, if an annuity was bought and annuity yields had improved (due to higher market rates of interest), cancellation and replacement, on better terms, could take place. That would be to the disadvantage of the life office—and, ultimately, other policyholders.

The new regulations do not apply to industrial "home service" type policies, the man from the Pru's life insurance. If you insure the life of somebody else (other than your spouse), for whatever reason, you will not be able to cancel, and nor can you cancel a policy "made in compliance with or as an integral part of a personal credit scheme".

It looks as though that applies to policies arranged to repay house purchase loans; but some big building societies do not agree since they would allow a borrower to switch over to a "repayment" mortgage.

If somebody wants to cancel, he or she can put the notice of cancellation in the post within 10 days of receiving the statutory notice from the life office, or within one day of knowing that the contract is in force and the first premium has been paid—whichever is later.

Unfortunately, life offices are not adopting the same approach. Some collect a cheque or direct debit authority with the completed proposal form—and send the notice straight away, giving you 10 days from receipt of the notice. Others wait until the underwriting process has been completed (including, where necessary, a medical examination) before sending an acceptance letter and notice for payment. In the latter case, as in the past, if you do not want to go ahead you simply do not send the cheque.

If you send off your cancellation form knowing that the premium has been paid, how do you know when the premium has been paid? Some might argue (although probably with little success) that they did not know until they received their bank statement—weeks later.

The Insurance Companies (Notice of Long-term Policy) Regulations 1978, made under the Insurance Companies Act 1974.

John Drummond

day 1 day 2 day 3 day 4 day 5 day 6 day 7 day 8 day 9 day 10

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January

With snow and strikes on the way, beginning of 1979 had little to recommend it. Minimum lending rate was 12.5 per cent and the mortgage interest rate had just risen to an uncomfortable 11.75 per cent. Gold was a mere \$222 an ounce and the stock market, measured by the FT industrial ordinary index, stood at 473.

On January 1 interest on the National Savings Bank investment account was raised to 12 per cent. Lloyds Bank entered the home loan market with £20m set aside for larger loans, while in the Channel Islands, the Trustee Savings Bank began offering mortgages too.

Changed legislation a few months earlier on the personal Finance plan from produced a flurry of open market options from a wide range of life offices. Abbey launched its Gilt and Fixed Interest trust.

February Interest rates were on the move—upwards. The first of many changes in MLR was announced. The 18th issue of National Savings Certificates, with the 8.45 per cent tax free return sold with gusto. The market was rising and the new unit trusts kept coming: Intel's Pacific Fund, Hill Samuel's General Exempt and the first of many Recovery and special situation funds, Craigmount's Recovery.

March It was the International Year of the Child; life assurance companies were waiting with investment packages designed to give non-taxpayers kids all the advantages of 17½ per cent life assurance tax relief next month. Sounded like a good idea—but the Inland Revenue got there first. It let it be known that children of "tender" (sic) years cannot take out the policies and get the tax relief.

The Canadians were out to force this month. Cannon Assurance, once part of Bernie Cornfield's ill-fated Investors Overseas Group, was sold to Inland Finance, a subsidiary of the Canadian Cascade organization; Royal Bank of Canada bought the Plymouth-based consumer credit company, Western Trust and Savings. Guardian Royal Exchange moved into the linked life business, its Grelia company, and National Westminster went offshore with High Income

June The Tories Budget cut basic rate tax from 33 to 30 per cent, reduced the top rate from 75 per cent to 60 per cent but increased VAT to 15 per cent and MLR to 14 per cent.

July Mr Callaghan decided to go to the country and so all we got was a token Budget from Chancellor Healey. Few new savings products were launched as people waited on political events. But there were important underlying developments. Life assurance premiums became payable net of tax relief at 17½ per cent. The Superannuation Funds Office issued memorandum 58 which opened the door for an avalanche of self-administered pension plans later in the year. And the Price Commission gave the thumbs down to changes in the unit trust charges. MLR went down to 12 per cent.

August Long-awaited legislation enacted covering the establishing of new open-ended credit unions where a common bond must exist between members. Bradford & Bingley building society provided a lump sum facility to its Lanchester building society members. Hill Samuel's Special Situations and Quaker's Quadrant International fund, Solar Life launched a new distribution fund and Abbey National introduced its flexible Open Bond share scheme.

September The mighty Halifax at last succumbed and announced it would charge differential mortgage interest rates on larger loans. Unit trust group Sars and Prosper dabbled a tentative toe in the home loan market. Interest on National Savings Bank investment account rose to 12.5 per cent. On the fund scene, Chive Discount and Hambros Bank joined to launch an offshore gilt fund for high rate savers. Finally, an agreement completely introduced an international fund.

October Exchange controls vanished into thin air and the savings industry responded to the end of expropriation with new id in other areas. Two-year come bonds soon followed one-year bonds, but the new from Standard Life and M. Hunt Investors. Albany 1 introduced a variable premium policy tied to performance. New Zealand Insurance's Universal bond was a new package among six different vestment groups. And Ang Hastings and Thetford building society raised £20m in the City for its new office in the new Standard Life, the Scottish savings giant, finally enter the unit-linked market.

November The crunch came with a crisis level of MLR of 17 per cent provoking an immediate response from the building societies. Their consequential mortgage interest rate of 8 per cent rose to 8.75 per cent from 8 per cent to 8.75 per cent. Newcomer Skandia Life, offshoot of Swedish insurance giant, came on the scene. The Trustee Savings Bank breathed fresh air into the household and house contents insurance market with a new simplified policy. New were Hill Samuel's Special Situations and Quaker's Quadrant International fund, Solar Life launched a new distribution fund and Abbey National introduced its flexible Open Bond share scheme.

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Diary of a 1979 saver

Was it a bad year? Interest rates soared, mortgages cost more, but income tax fell and exchange controls vanished

and Equity funds. The Canadian connection appeared again with Craigmount's Canadian unit trust.

April Mr Callaghan decided to go to the country and so all we got was a token Budget from Chancellor Healey. Few new savings products were launched as people waited on political events. But there were important underlying developments. Life assurance premiums became payable net of tax relief at 17½ per cent. The Superannuation Funds Office issued memorandum 58 which opened the door for an avalanche of self-administered pension plans later in the year. And the Price Commission gave the thumbs down to changes in the unit trust charges. MLR went down to 12 per cent.

August Long-awaited legislation enacted covering the establishing of new open-ended credit unions where a common bond must exist between members. Bradford & Bingley building society provided a lump sum facility to its Lanchester building society members. Hill Samuel's Special Situations and Quaker's Quadrant International fund, Solar Life launched a new distribution fund and Abbey National introduced its flexible Open Bond share scheme.

September The mighty Halifax at last succumbed and announced it would charge differential mortgage interest rates on larger loans. Unit trust group Sars and Prosper dabbled a tentative toe in the home loan market. Interest on National Savings Bank investment account rose to 12.5 per cent. On the fund scene, Chive Discount and Hambros Bank joined to launch an offshore gilt fund for high rate savers. Finally, an agreement completely introduced an international fund.

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Fixed interest investment

Why rates should fall by the summer

strong feeling that the United States rates have either peaked or will peak early in the new year. Thereafter the trend should be steadily downwards as economic activity slows.

One hopes that potential buyers of such a scenario will not be misled by the fact that the rate of inflation is still high. But much as I dislike betting with the crowd, on this occasion at least I feel forced to go along with it.

That leaves three basic questions to deal with. When will rates fall, how far will they fall, and will short or longer term rates fall further? Quite honestly, attempting to predict the trend in interest rates with any degree of precision is a mug's game. But let me at least set out some of the considerations that should be shaping the pattern of interest rates.

Point number one is that since late October we have been living in a country free of exchange controls. The general implication of that ought to be that the United Kingdom interest rates should in future be even more sensitive to movements in key international interest rates, especially dollar rates; and these, of course, are at present being determined against a highly uncertain world background.

That does not mean to say that the outlook for international interest rates is bleak. Indeed, there is a

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EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

able or quies

Waiting for Staveley

sort of reader, hard-ice-cold, ruthless stock market duds, sentimental only to suckers, they should in a happy new year and more people are working faster and fewer on offer, unemployed, poised to rise through year's footings and there will grow more great names will go, but surely, like a hand in the making, the one of the next bull are being laid. And in the sea of misery, seasonal know that the is cyclical and strong. When business (as it is) is starting to do companies turn stocks into cash. They because they'll less cause they sell less need to lock up 2 stocks.

people and companies less, money becomes to price falls, like that other commodity, a government, utters, and spending more, recovers, unit costs profits soar, dividends and so it goes.

that cannot yet exact timing of the city upturn. At a guess, early next summer, a gilt-edged boom have come and gone.

thing I am sure, next innery could well be among this year's and few of this year's

Peter Wainwright

ver bought at market stall

de ago my wife bought one of old silver, an attractive set of the forks from an dealer who had a stall at market. The dealer been sent to jail for a stolen goods. The realising is that every- he had on his stall. My wife wishes to purchase to the local market but I am concerned at if she does so this count to a confession an you advise? (R.M., ton).

that your wife items in all innoring no idea that they n, she is not guilty of e. She could only be of handling stolen he had my money for that they might be the time she acquired h suspicion might be she had bought them peddling low price or circumstances.

t that she now has as to the origin of does not oblige her the police. She is keep the goods until claimed by the true it she is under no seek him out.

narker in question is ed by law" it could sale in market over, case the true owner be able to recover her.

received a letter secretary of my b telling me that as b had not been he year, he assumed ing up my money, he became due and a provisional receipt. I was able to find it him a photocopy, he apologize, explain y an oversight it had y credited to my What would have gal position if I had ble to produce my Suppose the club how could I prove asable doubt that I t? Or is it up to the tary to prove that I aid it? (J. P. New n Tyne).

it is merely evidence b but you were to find it because in e lasts for six years. ty, a receipt should e the same length of ou have any doubt accounting efficiency club secretary, it advisable to pay by future. A paid che- res as proof of pay- club dues you, the len of proof is on tify the judge that fact paid, since you there was a debt in ace. However, you do o satisfy him beyond ouble. Such a high proof only applies l cases. You need y the judge "on the b probabilities" the aid to this end, a desirable, but not provided you could t oath that you e paying and to

wedding present to daughter and my grandson-in-law, of capital transfer uary, 1979. My ques- ing done this, can I t gift up to £2,000 in the year 1979-80, a capital transfer tax quite separate? (W. P. Horsham.)

emption for gifts evation of marriage nual exemption of

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Firmer note in drifting equities

The Stock Market began the new account on a quiet, but apparently, firm note yesterday as the holiday period continued to take its toll.

The general routine was much the same of late with most interest being centred on specialist sectors and company news. Divergence did manage to take some heart from the news of a last ditch attempt at resolving the steel strike but in general equities remained dull. Hopes of a merger by Inco and the weekend press as being a buy for the new year saw a handful of shares buzz but it was hardly enough to draw much solid support.

Gold shares remained buoyant reflecting the recent rise in the bullion price, which finished the day yesterday \$1 off at \$510 an ounce, although most were subject to profit taking after Thursday's sharp rise.

Activity among gilt edged was low even though longer were mostly an £8 bent. This however was mainly offset by the shorter end of the market when after a firm start they drifted back to finish about £1/16 to £1/8.

Business after hours proved a little brighter with the FT Index finishing at its highest point of the day 3.1 up at 417.8.

The firmer trend was reflected in leading industrial shares where ICI improved 2p to 264p and ICI gained 4p to 361p as did Metal Box loss ground

erlier in the week in connection with the effect of the steel strike. Rise of 2p were noted in Unilever 2p up at 454p, Becton at 119p and Glaxo at 436p. Pilkington Bros were 2p off at 198 as the new shares went fully paid.

On the bid front Anthony Gibbs climbed 4p to 75p following its approach earlier in the week from Hongkong & Shanghai Bank while Highland Distillers firmed 1p to 146p as prepared for its battle to land at the advance of Canadian distillers Hiram Walker. Joseph Shanks were unchanged at 27p as was its would-be sutor Winway Watson 15p.

Shares of the troubled engineering group Fairbairn Lawton were suspended at 12p, just above the low for the year, and follows an earlier suspension period earlier in the year. Another troubled engineering group to be suspended was Wilson Walton where the shares were frozen at 6p.

Among shipping shares P & O climbed 4p to 110p on reports that it might be named share of the year, while Furness Withy advanced 1p to 25p on reports that Eurocanadian might be ready to launch a full-scale bid. Speculative interest was good for 31p rise in Wearwell at 48p, APV 5p stronger at 181p, British Benz 4p to 274p and Nertco and Nertco & Wright 9p up at 96p in a thin market.

News that William Collins had sold one of its London properties and then leased it back prompted a rise of 5p to 113p and the BL-Honda deal cheered shares of Lucas 6p up at 234p.

Companies with substantial interests in the North Sea featured strongly the oil price continued to rise. Carless Capel led with a 6p rise at 82p. Associated Newspapers jumped 3p to 250p and National Carbondising improved 4p to 128p. Only Canwoods 2p lower at 155p and Imperial Continental 1p off at 600p went against the trend.

Some of the major oil companies managed to hold their own with BP 8p higher at 350p, and the new 6p better at 147p. Shell were 4p higher at 326p, Ultramar 6p up at 418p, Loco 3p to the end at 351p and Tricentral with a rise of 7p to 258p.

Textiles finished mixed. Nottingham Manufacturing was 1p better at 72p as was Court-

auide at 73p. Carrington Viyella had a 5p rise at 28p were both unchanged.

Properties gave a firmer performance than of late with Hammarston 'A' continuing its upward trend rising a further 15p to 730p as the new gained 8p to 155p. Land Securities at 259p and Trafford Park at 118p were both 2p better but MEPC was 1p lower at 166p.

Profit taking left gold shares finishing mostly mixed with Western Holdings 51p up at 554p. Anglo American 51p better at 575p while in Australias featured Hampton Gold 15p stronger at 260p. Profit taking 52p from West Driefontein at 569p and Kleeef at 51p at 526p. Selection Trust featured prominently strongly among the London financials with Selection Trust leading 32p to 578p, Consolidated Tubes Royal was advanced 1p to 384p and R.I.T. put on 4p to 384p.

Insurances were slightly better with rises averaging a couple of pence while among

the major clearing banks Barclays improved 5p to 430p, Lloyds 3p to 308p and Grindlays were 10p better at 133p.

The major clearing banks continued their recent rally with Barclays 5p up at 430p, Lloyds 3p stronger at 308p while National Westminster put on 2p to 353p. Grindlays were also wanted, jumping 10p to 133p.

Insurances also gave a better performance than of late with gains of 2p in GRE at 228p, General Accident at 220p and Pearl at 274p. Commercial Union was 1p firmer at 139p. C. T. Bowring continued to gather strength as it waited for Marsh & McLellan to make its next move, improving 3p to 132p.

Electricals were dull with Thorn dipping 2p to 280p on reports of increased imports of television tubes. Royal was unchanged at 186p and GEC rose 3p to 366p.

Equity turnover on December 27 was £39.20m (£911 bargains).

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profit	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
for the	£m	£m	per share	ps	date	total
Hammerston (A)	8,517.6	0.133(0.07)	2.09(1.35)	—	—	—
Hammerston (B)	—	0.43(0.13)	—	1.5(1.5)	23/2	(3.3)
J. F. Nash (F)	35,112.7	0.91(0.37)	9.9(4.3)	3.3(2.7)	27/2	6.5(5.7)
Victor Stone (F)	3,82(2.6)	0.63(0.54)	4.05(3.07)	0.95(0.62)	26/2	1.45(0.82)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown gross. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.49. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net.

Fairbairn is suspended again

By Our Financial Staff

For the second time in the past three months the shares of troubled engineering group Fairbairn Lawton have been suspended.

Yesterday the shares were put on ice at 12p valuing the company at £14m. Dealings in Fairbairn were resumed on December 10 after an eight week suspension at 20p.

Following the suspension of Fairbairn Lawton's listing, the directors announced that the company was taking place which might lead to offering being made for all the share capital of the company. A further announcement was promised as soon as possible.

Earlier this month the group announced that it had sold its local subsidiary to North American subsidiary to Atlantic Engineering and Company, a Jersey-based company controlled by a consortium of South American investors. The cost of the complex deal was described by the Fairbairn directors as "heavy".

According to the 1978 annual report—which was qualified by auditors Price Waterhouse—the actual loss amounted to more than £2m and the chairman reported that the Greenbush problems had had an effect on the other divisions.

Speculation in the City surrounds the 5.5 per cent stake in the group held by Martac

Aktiengesellschaft of Vaduz, Lichtenstein. However, yesterday there were no Fairbairn directors available for comment.

Another engineering company to be suspended was Wilson Walton, at 8p.

The North Sea construction group made a loss last year of £1.7m and at the time of the mid-October full year figure announcement, the directors admitted that the only business on its books was a £4m contract with BNO. The director in charge of technical affairs, Mr G. Murray, resigned in front of the annual meeting giving no reason for his action.

No dividend has been paid since 1977. At 8p a share the company is valued at £400,000.

Strike slows J F Nash

By Rosemary Unsworth

J. F. Nash Securities, the Kettering-based securities car-packing group which now holds 96 per cent of Reliant Motor Group, lost about £150,000 in profits during the year because of the engineering strike.

The group managed slightly to exceed its profits forecast, made in October, and pushed up pre-tax profits by 60 per cent to £598,000. Turnover rose by 22 per cent to £35.1m in the year ending September 30, 1979 with the trading disruption in August and September caused by the dispute. The figures in the annual report are the first time. The share price was unchanged at 70p on the announcement.

The proposed final dividend of 5p gross, also as forecast, makes a total for the year of 9.3p compared with 9.1p last year.

Mr John Nash, chairman, said that despite the unfavourable economic climate, the group's trading during the first quarter of the current year has been generally satisfactory.

Nash made an agreed £700,000 bid for the remaining 23 per cent of Reliant's shares. It did not already own in October which is unconditional and remains open for further acceptance. The plan is to develop Nash as an industrial group and simplify its management structure. The group bought its original 77 per cent stake in Reliant in June 1977.

Cavenham and Anglo Continental ahead

By Our Financial Staff

Major pre-tax profit increases have been recorded at two of the major Anglo-Continental subsidiaries, Anglo Continental Investment and Finance, and Anglo Continental Insurance. At Cavenham, interim results almost doubled to £27.1m, while Anglo Continental, also reporting interim results, pushed profits up from £624,000 to £1.83m.

Cavenham is the United Kingdom manufacturer and retailer of food and related products. The group, which controls many subsidiaries in north America, Ireland, other European countries and South Africa, is wholly owned by Sir James's master company, General Occidentale, registered in France.

Sales by Cavenham in the 32 weeks to the middle of November were £1.37m, and tax was £7.3m. Sales show an advance of about £300,000 on the same period of last year.

Anglo Continental is another wholly-owned subsidiary of General Occidentale. Its interests are banking, insurance and investment. But the group's banking associate, Banque Occidentale pour l'Industrie et le Commerce, has merged with Societe Financiere et Industrielle pour l'Expansion des Entreprises, reducing Anglo Continental's stake in the new company to approximately 19 per cent.

Operating profit for the six months to the end of September was £3.2m, compared with £1.64m for the same period of last year. The previous financial year was £32.8m. The company then expected a significant increase in profits for the current year.

Anglo Continental's profits were £1.98m for the nine months to the end of March. At the beginning of the month a Cavenham offshoot, Allied Supplies, paid £9.5m for Caters, a supermarket chain formerly owned by Debenhams. Cavenham has also recently been expanding its interests in the United States.

Pitman down by over 45 pc

The general slump in the book trade is blamed for the sharp drop in profits for the publishing and training colleges group Pitman.

In the six months to September 30, 1979, Pitman's pre-tax profits fell by more than 45 per cent to £516,000 compared with £1,135m last time. Turnover was down, too, during the period but only marginally at £12.85m against £13.2m.

Although the publishing division did poorly in the first half of the year the group says that Pitman's printing operation improved its profitability while the training colleges and aids held their own at the half year stage.

Mooloya quotation halted

The shares of Mooloya Investments were suspended yesterday at the company's request following the closing of the offer from privately-owned Nunery Holdings.

Nunery, which is controlled by Mr A. A. Phillips, a director of Mooloya, made a 70/3/16p share offer for the 232,000 ordinary Mooloya shares it does not already own, valuing Mooloya at £160,000.

Nunery is acting as agent for Mr Phillips, Mr B. Hersh, Mr G. Truman and Mr S. Terry who, between them, hold 235,500 Mooloya shares.

During the period of the original offer, made on November 5 and the renewed bid on November 18, no ordinary shares in Mooloya were bought by Nunery of any of the principals. The number of bid acceptances so far amount to 12.

Mooloya is currently negotiating with an international group over the future development of car seat cover makers Customagic Manufacturing Company. Its main operating subsidiary, Mooloya took over the company at the end of 1978.

Earlier this year the shares of Mooloya were suspended ahead of the take-over announcement. The listing was restored two weeks later on August 29.

Talbox Fair-Air decision

Talbox, the aerosol-to-hair-dressing group, will decide on the future of its problematic air conditioning subsidiary Fair-Air, in the next few months.

Chairman, Mr Stanley Lunt said yesterday's annual meeting in London that the options now facing Talbox were whether to continue with Fair-Air, which it acquired last year and has already caused large losses in the group, sell the company or close it down.

Although Fair-Air made profits in the four month period to the end of November, Mr Lunt warned shareholders that the order books were still "very thin and unbalanced".

He added that he could give no assurances that profits would continue to be earned throughout the current year.

Last year Talbox made pre-tax losses of £131,000 against profits of £573,000 the year before. Efforts were made then to acquire 75 per cent of the issued share capital of Cox, Sons & Co, publishers of the Free Press, from Farnham Castle Newspapers.

Under the 1973 Fair Trading Act the secretary of state has to give his approval for newspaper transfers if the proprietor's total circulation exceeds 500,000 a day.

Hunt brothers' Bache stake

Mr N. Bunker Hunt and Mr W. Herbert Hunt, wealthy Dallas oil men and investors, have bought an estimated 25 per cent stake in Bache Group Inc, sources at the securities-firm holding company disclosed. The sources said that the purchases, made in recent weeks, total about 285,000 shares. This would give the Hunt Brothers slightly more than a 3 per cent equity in Bache, which has about 8 million shares outstanding.

In Dallas, a spokesman for the Hunts confirmed that the brothers have purchased shares "for investment purposes only". He declined to specify the amount.

Bache sources said that the purchases were made at the urging of Mr Harry A. Jacobs Jr, Bache chairman and chief executive officer. It has been no secret on Wall Street that Mr Jacobs has been trying to get as much Bache stock as possible into friendly hands to thwart any takeover attempts.

Hunts are long-time securities and commodities customers of Bache Halsey Stuart Shields Inc, Bache Group's major subsidiary. Bache perceives major threat from Bel-Fran Investments, a Vancouver concern controlled by three brothers, Messrs Samuel, William and Hyman Belzberg. Bel-Fran currently owns slightly less than 7 per cent of Bache and had expressed an interest in increasing its holdings to as much as 25 per cent.

However, Bache holders effectively neutralized the Belzberg holdings by passing at the annual meeting last October a series of rules that would make it extremely difficult for any group to take control of the company, among other things, the rules would make it necessary for anyone seeking to gain control to acquire 75 per cent of the common outstanding.

New VW plant

Volkswagen of America will add a second assembly plant to its North American operations, a President James W. McLernon said in an end of year statement.

He thus confirmed expectations which followed last summer's announcement by Volkswagen's West German parent, Volkswagenwerk AG, of a \$3,100m capital spending plan which would place special emphasis on North America.

McLernon said increased demand for Volkswagen's products had caused the company to expand United States production capacity to the limit. The Westmoreland PA plant is capable of producing 1,000 vehicles a day.

A VW spokesman said he expects the decision on whether to buy or build the second plant to be made in early next year, adding that the location, cost and timing will depend on the build or buy decision.

William Collins property deal

Diary and book publishers William Collins has sold the freehold of its London headquarters building to an investment group for £6.6m. Under the terms of the sale of the 13,000 sq ft building in St James's Place London SW1 Collins has agreed to lease back the offices at an annual rent of around £180,000.

The publishers are to lease the office block for up to five years during which time they will look for another building. The £6.6m sale price represents a massive increase over the £550,000 book value. Collins say the surplus will be used to reduce group borrowings which for the year to December 31, 1978 stood at over £13m.

A cash-raising exercise of this kind has been expected since the company's last interim figures which showed losses of more than £800,000 compared with a profit in the 1978 first half of £1.2m. Chairman Mr Jan Collins said that it was imperative for the group to reduce borrowings and costs. Interest charges during the first six months of 1979 had increased by 52 per cent to more than £1m.

Inveresk group completes sale

The sale of Inveresk Group's interest in the paper merchanting business, its holding in Link Paper & Supplies was completed yesterday. Swedish based M & Domsjo has paid £1,417m cash and assumed bank liabilities of £3.7m. The Office of Fair Trading has confirmed it will not interfere with the sale to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

United Wire Group cautious

Mr Anthony Green, chairman of the United Wire Group, says that the company's level of profitability continues to be affected by interest rates, inflation and the strength of sterling. Because of these factors he adds that it is not possible to forecast results for the current year.

John Williams qualified

Auditors Touche Ross have qualified the accounts of John Williams of Cardiff because no depreciation has been provided on the group's freehold buildings. The auditors state that this does not comply with the Standard Accounting Practice 12 relating to property depreciation. Touche Ross say they are unable to quantify the effect of non-compliance with this standard.

Louis C. Edwards expands

Yorkshire Biscuits (a subsidiary of Louis C. Edwards & Sons) has received acceptances in respect of its offer for Furniss and Co of 71,379 shares, some 89.2 per cent. This includes 15,617 shares, 19.5 per cent held by the directors, who had irrevocably undertaken to accept the offer.

Yorkshire Biscuits has declared the offer unconditional in all respects and it will remain open until further notice.

Gen Stockholders' strategy

Despite general economic problems in the United States there are companies with increasing order books and strong balance-sheets in which The General Stockholders Investment Trust will continue to invest, says chairman, Mr William Govett in his annual statement. He is confident that profits of these companies will continue to increase and that the assets value and income stream of the Trust will benefit.

B. F. Goodrich

B. F. Goodrich expects new car sales to decline in 1980, a trend which will adversely affect tyre shipments to the original equipment market.

The company expects new car sales to fall to about \$9.5m in 1980 from an estimated \$10.6m in 1979, with the major tyre shipments to the United States built cars.

Goodrich said unit passenger tyre sales in the replacement market will continue near the 1979 level, which was somewhat depressed from the levels of 1978 and earlier years.

Board buys more

Directors of timber importers May & Hassell have increased their shareholdings in the company. Mr Dennis Raby has acquired 3,500 ordinary shares, Mr Noel Aley has acquired 500 ordinary shares and Mr Peter Aley has increased his beneficial interest by 1,500 ordinary shares and his non-beneficial interest by 2,000 shares.

Both Mr Paul Thompson and Mr J. L. Emmerson have increased their non-beneficial interests through the acquisition of a further 2,000 ordinary shares and Mr John Bailey has acquired 3,000 shares.

Takeovers clear monopoly hurdle

The following proposed mergers are not to be referred to the Monopolies Commission. Kwik-Fit (Tyres and Exhausts) Holdings with Euro-Exhauster Control Holdings; Eagle Star Holdings with Bernard Sunley Investments; Sears Holdings with Wallis Fashion Group; British Petroleum with Hendrick Fabrikken; Thorn Electrical Industries with GEBR Kaiser GMBH and Co Leuchten; Kaiser Gas with Glogas; David Dixon

IBM sells notes

International Business Machines has sold \$300m of notes in a private placement to the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency. It said the notes have a final maturity of seven years. The proceeds will be used for increased capital requirements for construction of manufacturing facilities for rental equipment to meet customer demand for the company's products and services.

Bristol Utd Press is referred

Trade Secretary Mr John Nott is referring to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Arabs take
Sunshine
silver mine
stake

By Michael Prest
When Mr. G. Michael Boswell, president of the Sunshine Mining Company, the United States' biggest pure silver mine, was passing through town a few weeks ago on a quiet promotional tour, he hinted that unnamed Arabs had shown interest in his company's prospects. Now they have surfaced.

Arab Investors Group, a private Luxembourg-registered company believed to be controlled by Kuwaiti interests, has reported to the Securities and Exchange Commission that it has bought 19.4 per cent of Sunshine's common stock, amounting to 1.03m shares. The price was a total of \$21.9m (\$10.5m).

Not content with this modest outlay, Arab Investors has acquired from Sunshine an option to buy another 500,000 shares, costing \$10.6m. Should the option be exercised, the group would control 26.3 per cent of the silver mine.

The Arabs, one of whose directors is H. H. Sheikh Badr, a member of the Kuwaiti ruling family, say that their purchase is an investment. In other words, it is unlikely that they would want actually to run the company. That is characteristic of this kind of Arab investment.

The investment works both ways. Silver has been one of the year's fastest performers. While 12 months ago the London Metal Exchange closing price was 286p an ounce for cash delivery, yesterday it was 1,262.5p. Sunshine's profits have responded accordingly. Net income was \$1.56m in 1977, \$3.18m in 1978, and \$9.04m in the first three quarters of the current year — 310 per cent up on the same period of last year.

Mr. Boswell confidently expects the trend to continue. He sees the fundamental demand-supply position as very favourable to the mining companies. Inflation and the general scramble for precious metals can only help. Consequently, Sunshine, whose mine is in Idaho, plans to spend between \$250m and \$300m on trebling production to around 15m ounces a year. That is where the Arabs come in.

The price at which Arab Investors is buying Sunshine's stock averages \$21.3. This is a good price, bearing in mind that it stood at around \$16 in mid-November. A leading firm of American silver analysts estimates that Sunshine stands on a prospective price/earnings ratio for 1979 of 8.2. The yield, however, is only 2.4 per cent.

Options

Activity among London Traded options remained at a low ebb yesterday as a result of the extended holiday period. Total contracts amounted to 232 compared with the previous day's figure of 161. Consolidated Gold Fields and Cec both attracted what attention there was accounting for 136 contracts.

The position in traditional options was much the same. Grand Met proved to be active as were several of the Australian gold shares while a put was arranged in Coas Gold following its recent price rise.

Bank Base
Rates

ABN Bank	17
Barclays Bank	17
BCCI Bank	17
Consolidated Credit	17
C. Hoare & Co.	17
Lloyds Bank	17
London Mercantile	17
Midland Bank	17
Nat Westminster	17
Royal Bank	17
TSE	17
Williams and Glyn's	17

* 7 day deposit on terms of £10,000 and under 12m, up to 250,000 and over 12m, up to 2,000,000 and over

Leading Italian Manufacturers of Automatic, Hydraulic, C.N.C. — Chuck and Bar Lathe, Lathe, 45-90mm — require

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Milano, Italy

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27-28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8BB Telephone: 01-638 3851
The Over-the-Counter Market

1979 High	Low	Current	Price	Change	Yield	P.E.
99	39	Airsprung Group	75	—	6.7	8.9
99	35	Armstrong & Rhodes	39	—	2.3	10.0
223	142	Bardon Hill	219	—	13.8	6.3
101	30	Deborah Ord	92	—	5.0	5.4
353	149	Deborah 171	353	—	17.5	5.0
90	88	Frank Horsell	90	—	7.9	8.8
147	100	Frederick Parker	107	—	12.8	12.0
138	110	George Blair	110	—	16.5	15.0
61	45	Jackson Group	39	—	5.2	8.8
133	97	James Burroughs	116	—	7.2	6.3
342	242	Jordan Jenkins	244	—	31.3	12.3
232	140	Jorday Limited	228	—	14.3	6.4
34	14	Twinkl Ord	17	—	0.8	4.9
82	69	Twinkl 121 ULS	76	—	12.0	15.8
56	23	Unilock Holdings	56	—	2.6	4.6
84	42	Walter Alexander	83	—	4.4	5.3
190	136	W. S. Yeates	184	—	11.5	6.3
189	185	W. S. Yeates New	185	—	—	—

*Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP13.

Wall Street

New York, Dec. 27. — Stocks were marginally lower on volume of about 6m shares this morning. The Dow Jones Industrial average was about a point lower and declines marginally led advances. Bache Group gained 1 to 101. It confirmed that N. Bunker Hunt and W. Herbert Hunt have purchased about three per cent of the company's shares.

Howard Johnson picked up 3 to 24. The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control has determined that Imperial Group's proposed takeover of Howard Johnson will not conflict with the alcoholic beverage laws of the state.

Big leap for gold
Gold rose by \$10.20 to reach a spot price of \$217.20 in New York. In London, it rose by 10s 10d to 340s 10d. The price of gold in the United States rose by 10c to \$217.20. The price of gold in London rose by 10s 10d to 340s 10d.

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Money Market
Rates

The only factor in the market's favour was the slightly above-target balance carried forward from Thursday. Against this were a small net take-up of Treasury bills, a small rise in the note circulation, and the large excess of Revenue transfers to the Exchequer over government disbursements.

The position in traditional options was much the same. Grand Met proved to be active as were several of the Australian gold shares while a put was arranged in Coas Gold following its recent price rise.

Activity among London Traded options remained at a low ebb yesterday as a result of the extended holiday period. Total contracts amounted to 232 compared with the previous day's figure of 161.

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Recent Issues

Leading Italian Manufacturers of Automatic, Hydraulic, C.N.C. — Chuck and Bar Lathe, Lathe, 45-90mm — require

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Commodities

COPPER was weaker. Afternoon. Cash, 100lb, 100.00. Three months, 100.00. Six months, 100.00. One year, 100.00. Two years, 100.00. Three years, 100.00. Four years, 100.00. Five years, 100.00. Six years, 100.00. Seven years, 100.00. Eight years, 100.00. Nine years, 100.00. Ten years, 100.00.

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Foreign exchange report

In another light day's trade yesterday the pound gave back a little of recent good gains. Its trade-weighted level eased to 70.3 from 70.7. After extremes of 70.23 and 70.77, Sterling traded slightly lower at 2.2345 against the dollar compared with Thursday night's 2.2400.

Operators kept fresh commitments to a minimum in view of the weekend, and some banks had already ruled off their books for 1979.

Sterling Spot and Forward

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*Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP13.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1979		1978		1977		1976		1975		1974		1973		1972		1971		1970		1969		1968		1967		1966		1965		1964		1963		1962		1961		1960		1959		1958		1957		1956		1955		1954		1953		1952		1951		1950		1949		1948		1947		1946		1945		1944		1943		1942		1941		1940		1939		1938		1937		1936		1935		1934		1933		1932		1931		1930		1929		1928		1927		1926		1925		1924		1923		1922		1921		1920		1919		1918		1917		1916		1915		1914		1913		1912		1911		1910		1909		1908		1907		1906		1905		1904		1903		1902		1901		1900		1899		1898		1897		1896		1895		1894		1893		1892		1891		1890		1889		1888		1887		1886		1885		1884		1883		1882		1881		1880		1879		1878		1877		1876		1875		1874		1873		1872		1871		1870		1869		1868		1867		1866		1865		1864		1863		1862		1861		1860		1859		1858		1857		1856		1855		1854		1853		1852		1851		1850		1849		1848		1847		1846		1845		1844		1843		1842		1841		1840		1839		1838		1837		1836		1835		1834		1833		1832		1831		1830		1829		1828		1827		1826		1825		1824		1823		1822		1821		1820		1819		1818		1817		1816		1815		1814		1813		1812		1811		1810		1809		1808		1807		1806		1805		1804		1803		1802		1801		1800		1799		1798		1797		1796		1795		1794		1793		1792		1791		1790		1789		1788		1787		1786		1785		1784		1783		1782		1781		1780		1779		1778		1777		1776		1775		1774		1773		1772		1771		1770		1769		1768		1767		1766		1765		1764		1763		1762		1761		1760		1759		1758		1757		1756		1755		1754		1753		1752		1751		1750		1749		1748		1747		1746		1745		1744		1743		1742		1741		1740		1739		1738		1737		1736		1735		1734		1733		1732		1731		1730		1729		1728		1727		1726		1725		1724		1723		1722		1721		1720		1719		1718		1717		1716		1715		1714		1713		1712		1711		1710		1709		1708		1707		1706		1705		1704		1703		1702		1701		1700		1699		1698		1697		1696		1695		1694		1693		1692		1691		1690		1689		1688		1687		1686		1685		1684		1683		1682		1681		1680		1679		1678		1677		1676		1675		1674		1673		1672		1671		1670		1669		1668		1667		1666		1665		1664		1663		1662		1661		1660		1659		1658		1657		1656		1655		1654		1653		1652		1651		1650		1649		1648		1647		1646		1645		1644		1643		1642		1641		1640		1639		1638		1637		1636		1635		1634		1633		1632		1631		1630		1629		1628		1627		1626		1625		1624		1623		1622		1621		1620		1619		1618		1617		1616		1615		1614		1613		1612		1611		1610		1609		1608		1607		1606		1605		1604		1603		1602		1601		1600		1599		1598		1597		1596		1595		1594		1593		1592		1591		1590		1589		1588		1587		1586		1585		1584		1583		1582		1581		1580		1579		1578		1577		1576		1575		1574		1573		1572		1571		1570		1569		1568		1567		1566		1565		1564		1563		1562		1561		1560		1559		1558		1557		1556		1555		1554		1553		1552		1551		1550		1549		1548		1547		1546		1545		1544		1543		1542		1541		1540		1539		1538		1537		1536		1535		1534		1533		1532		1531		1530		1529		1528		1527		1526		1525		1524		1523		1522		1521		1520		1519		1518		1517		1516		1515		1514		1513		1512		1511		1510		1509		1508		1507		1506		1505		1504		1503		1502		1501		1500		1499		1498		1497		1496		1495		1494		1493		1492		1491		1490		1489		1488		1487		1486		1485		1484		1483		1482		1481		1480		1479		1478		1477		1476		1475		1474		1473		1472		1471		1470		1469		1468		1467		1466		1465		1464		1463		1462		1461		1460		1459		1458		1457		1456		1455		1454		1453		1452		1451		1450		1449		1448		1447		1446		1445		1444		1443		1442		1441		1440		1439		1438		1437		1436		1435		1434		1433		1432		1431		1430		1429		1428		1427		1426		1425		1424		1423		1422		1421		1420		1419		1418		1417		1416		1415		1414		1413		1412		1411		1410		1409		1408		1407		1406		1405		1404		1403		1402		1401		1400		1399		1398		1397		1396		1395		1394		1393		1392		1391		1390		1389		1388		1387		1386		1385		1384		1383		1382		1381		1380		1379		1378		1377		1376		1375		1374		1373		1372		1371		1370		1369		1368		1367		1366		1365		1364		1363		1362		1361		1360		1359		1358		1357		1356		1355		1354		1353		1352		1351		1350		1349		1348		1347		1346		1345		1344		1343		1342		1341		1340		1339		1338		1337		1336		1335		1334		1333		1332		1331		1330		1329		1328		1327		1326		1325		1324		1323		1322		1321		1320		1319		1318		1317		1316		1315		1314		1313		1312		1311		1310		1309		1308		1307		1306		1305		1304		1303		1302		1301		1300		1299		1298		1297		1296		1295		1294		1293		1292		1291		1290		1289		1288		1287		1286		1285		1284		1283		1282		1281		1280		1279		1278		1277		1276		1275		1274		1273		1272		1271		1270		1269		1268		1267		1266		1265		1264		1263		1262		1261		1260		1259		1258		1257		1256		1255		1254		1253		1252		1251		1250		1249		1248		1247		1246		1245		1244		1243		1242		1241		1240		1239		1238		1237		1236		1235		1234		1233		1232		1231		1230		1229		1228		1227		1226		1225		1224		1223		1222		1221		1220		1219		1218		1217		1216		1215		1214		1213		1212		1211		1210		1209		1208		1207		1206		1205		1204		1203		1202		1201		1200		1199		1198		1197		1196		1195		1194		1193		1192		1191		1190		1189		1188		1187		1186		1185		1184		1183		1182		1181		1180		1179		1178		1177		1176		1175		1174		1173		1172		1171		1170		1169		1168		1167		1166		1165		1164		1163		1162		1161		1160		1159		1158		1157		1156		1155		1154		1153		1152		1151		1150		1149		1148		1147		11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